THE MONTHLY EPITOME, AND LITERARY MAGAZINE.

FOR FEBRUARY, 1805.

X. *The* CORRESPONDENCE *of the late* JOHN WILKES *with his* FRIENDS; *printed from the original Manuscripts, &c. By* JOHN ALMON. [Concluded.]

HAVING given in our last number a full account of the first and second volumes of this work, with a few extracts, by way of specimen, we now resume our analysis of the remaining three; first, however, premising, that we are again compelled to lament the want of order of arrangement, and of connecting explanatory remarks complained of in our account of the two former volumes, we will, however, give as complete an analysis as we are able.

The third volume opens with extracts from Mr. Wilkes's notes on Churchill's poems, under the heads of the Duellist, Night, Gotham, Conference, Epistle to William Hogarth, Ghost, the Candidate, and the Fragment of a Dedication to the Bishop of Gloucester.

In the notes on Gotham we have an encomium on George II. of which we present the whole, not doubting but it will be acceptable to our readers.

'October: who the cause of freedom join'd,
And gave a second George to bless mankind.' Book I.

"This excellent prince, on many occasions, ventured his life in the cause of liberty. His distinguished bravery at the battles of Oudenard and Dettingen, was frequently the subject of the unsuspected praise of our inveterate enemies, the French. He was always a steady friend to the liberties of mankind; and, like the former princes of his house and of the Nassau line, kept a watchful eye over the Bourbons, well knowing their rooted enmity to our religion and government, and their long-meditated schemes for grasping at universal monarchy. He often checked the restless ambition of France in its mad career, by the most firm, wise, and successful measures. At his death he left us in possession of the capitals of the French in Asia and America, and of many other important conquests there, as well as in Europe and Africa; the greatest part of which we lost soon after by the peace of Paris, which proved more ruinous to England than all the swords of all our enemies.

"It is justice to the memory of the late king to declare, that he no less endeavoured to make his people free and happy at home, than to carry the glory of the British arms to the highest pitch every where abroad. During his reign the laws were respected and obeyed. Liberty and justice sat with him on the throne. The execution of Earl Ferrers impressed all foreign nations with the greatest idea of the sacredness of our laws, and the protection they gave to the meanest subject under a firm and mild sovereign. It was likewise believed, that if the court-martial on Lord George Sackville had given the sentence which all Europe expected, the justice of his late majesty would have ordered it to be carried into execution

"The poet knew, and deeply felt the obligation which a nation owes to such a prince. He pays it when he cannot lie under the suspicion of flattery; at a time when it was seen, that no man could so effectually make his court as by villifying the memory of our late sovereign, and tearing the laurels from his tomb. In this task numberless mercenaries were employ-

ed; but it is a ſufficient anſwer to a legion of them, that in the *firſt* addreſs of the Houſe of Lords to the preſent king, it is obſerved, that his majeſty's *predeceſſor*, through his whole reign, never once ſuffered the rights of any one of his ſubjects to be violated.

"I hope to be excuſed, when I add, that the praiſe which the late king now receives is a tribute of public, not of private, gratitude. It comes from the meaneſt of his ſubjects, who looks back with rapture on the firſt thirty years of his life, becauſe they were paſſed in his native country, in the land of liberty, when the prince on the throne loved and cheriſhed it. The poet is removed from the melancholy ſcenes which have followed. His tears no longer flow for his dear country —his country weeps for him."

In the notes on 'The Ghoſt,' we have a letter to Lord Temple, giving an account of Mr. W.'s affair with Earl Talbot, and of the circumſtances which led to it, followed by the letters which paſſed between the Earl and Mr. Wilkes, previouſly to the duel, and an extract from the North Briton, which cauſed the rencounter.

The article following the notes on Churchill is a letter from Mr. W. to the electors of Ayleſbury, written at Paris, where it was printed unmutilated. The letter preſented here is printed from a Paris copy, and contains Mr. W.'s own corrections; but as it may be more generally known than moſt of the other contents of this volume, we paſs over it with ſtating, that it is a vindication of Mr. W.'s political conduct with reſpect to the North Briton, and his Eſſay on Woman.

We have next a ſeries of letters, fifteen in number, from Mr. W. to Mr. Almon, moſtly on literary ſubjects. We preſent our readers with the greater part of the ſeventh, containing an account of his hiſtory of England.

"I would not have you, a family man, run a riſk for any party. You have ſeen enough of treachery, in your own caſe as well as mine. I ſpoke of ſtreet-walking publiſhers, whom it would be ridiculous in government to take up. We have here a kind of people who go from houſe to houſe, and diſtribute every thing of every kind, in ſpite of every precaution of government. I ſhould gueſs that ſuch muſt in time come among you, as well as here; for your government is every day getting more and more arbitrary.

"My hiſtory of England has coſt me much time and pains. I believe, with you, it will have a great ſale; the period is intereſting, and it is done with care. As to the copy, what you propoſe, is very juſt, but I cannot give myſelf ſo much trouble. I will give you my ideas on this head. I ſhall ſell the copy of the firſt volume, which contains the hiſtory of England from the revolution to the acceſſion of the houſe of Brunſwick; a large quarto, almoſt finiſhed. It is compiled from materials (beſides the old ones) which no hiſtorian has ſeen: the original letters of foreign miniſters to Louis XIV. and a journal to the death of James II. wrote by himſelf, which contains a variety of curious anecdotes. I will have ſix hundred pounds for it; half now, and the other half on the delivery of the volume in January next. I write this to you only in conſequence of what you mention. If you think it will be of ſervice to you, I ſhall be glad you undertook this rather than any other perſon. If you and I agree upon this point, I will ſubmit my manuſcript to any gentleman of candour and knowledge to reviſe, that no paſſage may appear dangerous to you. I do not think, however, there can be a ſingle word libellous in the firſt volume; though there may be a great many in the ſecond, which is from the acceſſion of the houſe of Brunſwick to the preſent time. I have thoughts of a country-houſe near this place; that I may entirely attend to the perfecting this great work, without any diſſipation. This will coſt me a good deal, therefore I muſt have three hundred pounds directly; and I would engage to deliver the firſt volume complete in January, on the payment of three hundred pounds more. I ſhall take care that my firſt volume ſhall make the nation wild for the reſt of the work.

" I have fully explained my intentions to you as a friend; as well as an honeſt, worthy, bookſeller. Let what I have mentioned remain a ſecret among ourſelves, if you do not accept it; if you do, ſay nothing of the terms. I can draw on you at any term we fix; and you may advertiſe, when you will, 'In the preſs,' (or any other expreſſion you prefer) 'The hiſtory of England, from the revolution, to the end of the fourth year of King George the Third. By John Wilkes, Eſq. In three volumes, quarto. The firſt volume, from the revolution to the acceſſion of the Houſe of Brunſwick, will be publiſhed the beginning of next year.'

" I believe this will anſwer all the purpoſes you mention, with reſpect to the purchaſers of Hume and Rapin."

In two of theſe letters Mr. Wilkes refers to ſome remonſtrances of ſeveral of the French parliaments, and courts of Aids, preſented to the king, prior to the peace of Paris, in 1763, which ſhew the deplorable ſtate of France at that time; and which are written with a ſpirit little to be expected from the French people. Extracts from theſe remonſtrances are given between the ninth and tenth letters: they are prefaced by Mr. W. and are accompanied by a *fac ſimile* of his hand writing.

Under the head " Mr. Wilkes's ſecond return to England," we have a detailed account of the circumſtances which induced him to reviſit his native country. Preſuming on a favourable reception from the Duke of Grafton, who then held a diſtinguiſhed ſituation in the cabinet, and which Mr. W. had been led to expect, in conſequence of the aſſurances of his grace's brother, when at Paris, he returned to England: the cool reception, however, which he experienced from the duke induced him to return to the continent, and this circumſtance led him to publiſh a pamphlet, containing, under the title of a letter to the Duke of Grafton, ſome acrimonious remarks on the conduct of thoſe in power, with reſpect to himſelf, and a vindication of his own political conduct. This ſection alſo contains three letters to his daughter whilſt on his way to England, and two others written to the Duke of Grafton, announcing his arrival, &c.

" Mr. Wilkes's third return to England," contains the reaſons for that ſtep. Four letters to his daughter, from Holland; one from Mr. Cotes to Mr. W. explaining the ſtate, &c. of parties at home; and one to Mr. Almon, announcing his remarks on the ſpeaker's reprimand of the magiſtrates of Oxford, in 1768, afterwards printed in the Political Regiſter. Theſe remarks, in our opinion, ſhew too much of party ſpirit, and a deſire of finding fault, to be generally intereſting.

Mr Wilkes's letter to his preſent majeſty, ſent by his footman, and which was not taken notice of: his unſucceſsful attempt at being elected member for London: his more ſucceſsful one for Middleſex: an account of his ſurrendering himſelf, and of his commitment to the King's-Bench priſon, come next to be detailed; and are followed by an account of the riot in St. George's fields, and the death of young Allen.

The next ſection details the meaſures which led to Mr. Wilkes's expulſion from the Houſe of Commons, and an account is given of that circumſtance. The conſequences of this proceeding conclude the third volume

During the debates on Mr. W.'s expulſion, the late Earl of Chatham ſaid, in one of his ſpeeches, that " *He was a blaſphemer of God, and a libeller of his king.*" Whether it be that ſatire bites the keeneſt when we are in ſome degree conſcious that we deſerve it, or whatever may be the reaſon, Mr. W. was ſo diſpleaſed at the expreſſion, as to purſue the earl with unceaſing hoſtility to the period of his death. The right hon. George Grenville ſpoke in defence of Mr. W. but his ſpeech not being ſufficiently grateful to him, Mr. W. wrote a ſevere and rude reply, which coſt him the friendſhip of Earl Temple, as they never ſpoke to each other afterwards.

The fourth volume commences with an account of Mr. Wilkes being elected alderman of Farringdon Ward Without. We present our readers with the whole section as a ſpecimen of the editor's ſtyle and manner.

"A vacancy in the court of aldermen having happened by the death of Sir Francis Goſling, a number of freemen, of this ward, immediately propoſed to elect Mr. Wilkes. The deſign was warmly approved; and, on the 2d of January, 1769, he was elected. But ſome miſtake, in point of form, having been made, the election was declared void; and another was appointed, which took place on the 27th of the ſame month, when Mr. Wilkes was unanimouſly rechoſen.

"The miniſterial party, who were the majority in the court of aldermen, affecting to doubt Mr. Wilkes's eligibility, reſolved to take the opinion of counſel on that point. The recorder (Eyre), the common ſerjeant (Nugent), and Sir Fletcher Norton, were of opinion, that he was *not* eligible. In this they were oppoſed by the attorney-general (De Grey), the ſolicitor-general (Dunning), Mr. ſerjeant Glynn, and Mr. ſerjeant Leigh.

"To the latter opinion the court of aldermen were favourable: and it was moved to ſend notice to Mr. Wilkes of his being duly elected; but this motion was negatived, the aldermen apprehending that a *mandamus* might be the conſequence. The election, however, gave Mr. Wilkes a natural and municipal connection with the city of London, and laid the foundation of that attachment which contributed ſo eſſentially to both his honour and his intereſt."

We have next an account of Mr. Wilkes's various elections for the county of Middleſex, and his expulſion from the Houſe of Commons, with the final ſettlement of Colonel Luttrel in the vacant ſeat for that county. In the notes are a liſt of the principal pamphlets which appeared at that time; they are

"Mr Grenville's ſpeech on the 3d of February, 1769.—Mr. Wilkes's anſwer, entitled 'A Letter to Mr. Grenville.'—'A fair Trial of the Important Queſtion;' very generally, but very unjuſtly, imputed to Lord Camden. It was written by Mr. Mackintoſh, a barriſter, and particular friend of Lord Temple,—'The Queſtion Stated,' by Sir William Meredith.—'The Anſwer,' by Judge Blackſtone.—'The Caſe of the Middleſex Election,' by J. Dyſon, M. P.—"Serious Conſiderations on a late Important Deciſion,' by Edward Weſton, Eſq. writer of the gazette —'Falſe Alarm,' by Dr. Johnſon. 'The Anſwer,' by Mr. Roſenhagen.—Junius's Letters."

The proceedings of the ſociety of ſupporters of the bill of rights, occupy the next ſection. This ſociety liquidated or compounded for the greater part of Mr. Wilkes's debts, and many of the members were inclined to render him eaſy and independent in his circumſtances; this, however, was oppoſed by others, and the ſociety diſſolved without proceeding any farther.

After Mr. Wilkes's enlargement, which occupies the next head, he publiſhed two addreſſes, one to the freeholders of the county of Middleſex, the other to the inhabitants of Farringdon Ward Without: both theſe addreſſes are given as notes to this ſection, and are written in Mr. Wilkes's beſt ſtyle: the one to his conſtituents, cenſures the conduct of the then parliament in bold language.

We have next a ſeries of letters, ſeventeen in number, from Mr. W. to his daughter, during her reſidence at Paris, in the ſummer of 1770. Theſe letters contain nothing either of a literary or political nature, being chiefly occupied by domeſtic or other ſimilar concerns: we may alſo ſay the ſame of nearly fifty more that follow; and which paſſed between Mr. W and his daughter, during ſeveral excurſions made by them into the country. We find an occaſional ſhort deſcription of places or ſcenery that were found entertaining; but as they are ſo few in number, we paſs them over.

In the year 1771, Mr. W. was elected ſheriff, and in 1774, lord mayor of London, with the greateſt applauſe; this ſection, beſides

an account of the above elections, contains a letter from Dr. Wilſon, ſenior prebend of Weſtminſter, and another from the Baron d'Holbach, both complimenting him on his reſpectable official conduct. Whilſt lord mayor, he preſented his majeſty a ſpirited remonſtrance and petition from the livery of London, on the affairs of America. At the termination of his mayoralty, he received the thanks of the city in the following terms:

"This court doth return thanks to the right honourable John Wilkes, late lord mayor of this city, for his indefatigable attention to the ſeveral duties of that important office; for the particular regard and politeneſs which he has been pleaſed, at all times, to ſhew the members of this court; for his wiſe, upright, and impartial adminiſtration of juſtice; for his diligence, on all occaſions, to promote the welfare and true intereſt of this city; and for his unblemiſhed conduct, and exemplary behaviour, during the whole courſe of his mayoralty."

In October, 1774, Mr. Wilkes was a fifth time elected member of parliament for the county of Middleſex. In this ſection, beſides an account of the above circumſtance, there is his ſpeech in defence of Mr. Haſtings, which he always conſidered as one of his happieſt parliamentary efforts: as a commentary on it, the editor preſents us with two extracts from a book, printed, but never publiſhed, under Mr. Haſtings's direction, for the uſe of his friends. The firſt of theſe is part of a letter from the chairman of the Eaſt India company to Mr. H. requeſting, amongſt other things, a ſtatement of the amount of his property: the ſecond is an anſwer from Mr. H. giving the ſtatement required.

In the year 1777, Mr. W. offered himſelf as candidate for the vacant office of chamberlain of the city of London, but was unſucceſsful. He was, however, more fortunate in 1779, and obtained that place, for which he was in every reſpect eminently qualified. It was his duty, in this ſituation, to preſent the freedom of the city to the diſtinguiſhed characters to whom it was voted as an honorary reward for brilliant and important ſervices; and in preſenting theſe marks of the eſteem of his fellow citizens, it was always his aim to render the gift doubly valuable, by the handſome encomia which he uſually delivered on preſenting thoſe marks of the favour of the firſt city in the world. It fell to his lot, in this capacity, to preſent the freedom of the city of London to Mr. Pitt, the Marquis Cornwallis, Sir William Meadows, Earl Howe, Lord Nelſon, and to Admiral Waldegrave. The various addreſſes to each of the above diſtinguiſhed characters, on thoſe occaſions, with their anſwers, are given in this ſection: they are all admirable, and are more to be valued, as they ſeem uniformly to adhere to truth. We preſent our readers with his addreſs to Mr. Pitt, and Mr. P.'s anſwer.

"Sir,—I give you joy: and I congratulate the city of London on the important acquiſition which it has this day made. I reckon it, ſir, among the moſt fortunate events of my life, that I have the honour of being directed by the unanimous reſolution of the lord mayor, aldermen, and common-council, to enroll your name in the archives of this metropolis, among thoſe princes and heroes who have been the benefactors of our country and the friends of mankind; with the glorious deliverer of this nation; with the hero of Culloden; with the illuſtrious ſtateſman from whom you derive your deſcent. The city of London, ſir, with pride and exultation, now behold revived in the ſon thoſe ſolid virtues, ſhining talents, and powerful eloquence, which they long admired in the father: but above all, that generous love of our country and its divine conſtitution, ſuperior to the groveling ſordid views of private ſelf-intereſt, or perſonal ambition. You have, ſir, thus early in your miniſterial career commanded the eſteem and admiration of this city and nation, by a noble act of diſintereſtedneſs in favour of the public, for which, I believe, you ſcarcely could find a precedent; nor, I fear, will you be imitated by any future miniſter.

"We look up, ſir, to that ſuperior ability and purity of public virtue, which diſtinguiſh you, for the reformation of many and great abuſes; as well as for the ſteady protection of our chartered rights, our property, and our freedom. The adminiſtration of your noble father gave us ſecurity at home, carried the glory of this nation to the utmoſt height abroad, and extended the bounds of the empire to countries where the Roman eagle never flew. A late adminiſtration undertook an unjuſt and wicked war; which diſmembered the empire, by depriving us of our moſt valuable colonies, and has brought us almoſt to the verge of bankruptcy. To reſtore this kingdom to a degree of proſperity and greatneſs, demands the utmoſt exertions of virtue and ability; with every ſupport, both of the crown and people at large. I hope you will meet with both; and I know how high you ſtand in the confidence of the public. Much is to be done; but you have youth, capacity, and firmneſs. It is the characteriſtic of a true patriot, never to deſpair; and we have a well grounded hope of your making us again a great, powerful, happy, and united people, by a ſteady, uniform, wiſe, and diſintereſted conduct. Your noble father, ſir, annihilated party; and I hope you will, in the end, beat down and conquer the hydra of faction, which now rears its hundred heads againſt you. I remember his ſaying, 'that for the good of the people he dared to look the proudeſt connections of this country in the face.' I truſt that the ſame ſpirit animates his ſon; and as he has the ſame ſupport of the crown and the people, I am firmly perſuaded that the ſame ſucceſs will follow."

MR. PITT'S ANSWER.

"Sir,—I beg to return you my beſt thanks for your very obliging expreſſions. Nothing can be more encouraging to me in the diſcharge of my public duty, than the countenance of thoſe, whom, from this day, I may have the honour of calling my fellow-citizens."

Mr. Wilkes's addreſs to Marquis Cornwallis is no way inferior to the one already given: indeed the whole are excellent.

The next article is an account of Mr. W.'s editions of Catullus and Theophraſtus, both of which were printed by his learned and worthy deputy Mr. Nicholls. His Catullus may be ſtyled immaculate; it is a ſmall quarto volume, three copies of which were printed on vellum, and one hundred more on fine poſt-paper; the greater part of which were diſtributed among his friends. This ſection alſo contains acknowledgments of thoſe preſents from ſome of the moſt diſtinguiſhed characters of the time. His edition of Theophraſtus's characters, was not leſs accurate than that of Catullus; the ſame number was printed on vellum and poſt-paper, and diſtributed in the ſame manner. The Greek is without accents; and ligatures or abbreviations of the Greek literals are no where to be found in it. Several polite notes of thanks, for preſents of the work, from ſome of the literary and other eminent characters of the day, cloſe this ſection.

The editor next preſents us with a ſeries of letters from Miſs W. to her father, during his ſhort tour on the coaſt: they are written in her uſual affectionate ſtyle, and are ſucceeded by thirty-three more of a ſimilar deſcription.

The remainder of the contents of this volume, conſiſts of two letters from Mr. W. to his daughter, from Paris, in the year 1766, omitted in their proper place. A letter from Dr. H*****, to Mr. Wilkes; another from the recorder (Eyre); ſeveral from Mr. Boſwell, which are ſprightly, but not peculiarly important; two extracts from Boſwell's life of Johnſon, containing an account of two meetings between Johnſon and Wilkes, at Mr. Dilly's; ſeveral letters from Dr. Warton, the ſixth of which complains grievouſly of the Doctor's being ſcourged in the Monthly Review, and the Purſuits of Literature; a letter from Mr. Mullett; another from Lord Carmarthen; one from Mr. Sewell, of Hadley: and the volume cloſes with a note from the Treaſury-Chamber, requiring Mr. W.'s attendance and ſupport at a time ſpecified.

We preſent our readers with Mr.

Sewell's letter, as it will contribute to a diverſification of the ſubject.

"Mr. Sewell, of Hadley, ſends herewith his reſpectful compliments to Mr. Wilkes, with the medal of Trajan's bridge over the Danube; and with another of that emperor. Under the arch, '*Danvbivs*,' is quite effaced. One arch only on the medal: there were twenty arches. The whole length of the bridge was 4370 Roman feet (5280 Roman feet to a Roman mile) ſomewhat leſs than an Engliſh mile; the length ſomewhat leſs than four-fifths of an Engliſh mile.

"What a pity it is, that this medal was not known when Weſtminſter and Blackfriars bridges were framed!

"If Mr. Wilkes does not ſet out before eight to-morrow morning, Mr. Sewell will wait on him at ſeven at his inn, to conſult about getting a complete draught of this bridge by ſome eminent maſter in London. WILLIAM SEWELL."

"Perhaps this medal is not to be found elſewhere in the world."

At the end of this volume, we have a *fac ſimile* plate of Mr. Wilkes's agreement with Mr. Almon, for his hiſtory of England.

Our analyſis of the four preceding volumes having been ſo copious, we ſhall paſs as haſtily as poſſible over the laſt of this not altogether unintereſting work. We acknowledge, however, to have felt ſome diſappointment in reading it, as we expected, from the opportunities poſſeſſed by the editor, a full and complete hiſtory of the arduous times in which Mr. W. made ſo conſpicuous a figure. We are ſo frequently left in the dark, for want of connecting and explanatory remarks, as to feel no heſitation in aſſerting, that people unacquainted with the political hiſtory of the times in which Mr. Wilkes lived, will often be unable to peruſe the work without ſome difficulty.

In our account of the fifth volume, we ſhall preſent our readers with the table of contents, and afterwards notice thoſe ſections which ſeem more worthy of attention.

"Letters from Mr. and Mrs. Haſtings.

Letters from Mrs. and Miſs Sterne.

Letters from Miſs Sterne to John Hall Stephenſon, Eſq.

Letters from Mr. Wilkes to Mr. Petrie.

Preſents to Mr. Wilkes.

The City Cup.

Copy of the Proclamation for apprehending the Printers of The Gazetteer and The Middleſex Journal.

Extracts from the Guildhall Rota Book.

Letter from Mr. Wilkes to the Earl of Halifax, Secretary of State.

Applications to Mr. Wilkes.

Deſcription of Sandown Cottage, Mr. Wilkes's Summer Reſidence.

Letters to Mr. Wilkes, from various Perſons.

Pecuniary Diſtreſſes.

Groſvenor-ſquare, Mr. Wilkes's Town Reſidence.

Mr. Wilkes's Death.

———— Will, with ſome Remarks upon it.

Of Miſs Wilkes.

Copy of Miſs Wilkes's Will.

Of Mr. Wilkes's Son, Mr. John Smith.

Of Miſs Harriet Wilkes.

Subſtance of the Will of Iſrael Wilkes, Eſq. Father of John Wilkes.

Subſtance of the Will of William Mead, Eſq. Father of Mrs. Wilkes.

Two Letters from Iſrael Wilkes to his Brother John Wilkes.

Three Letters from Heaton Wilkes, Eſq. to his Brother John Wilkes.

Subſtance of Mr. Wilkes's Speech to the Inhabitants of Farringdon Without, December 14, 1792.

Introduction to the Hiſtory of England.

Supplement to Gibbon.

Letter from George Onſlow, Eſq. now Earl Onſlow.

Letter from Diderot.

———— Mrs. Foreman.

———— Mr. Townley.

———— Dr. Prieſtley.

———— America, on the ſubject of the Revolution there.

Foreign Letters.

Concluſion."

The ſection denominated "The City Cup," will be read with much intereſt, as it details a variety of circumſtances connected

with the printing of parliamentary debates in the public papers: the right of doing which ſeems to have been tacitly acknowledged ever ſince that time. Indeed we ſee nothing either improper or illegal in the people exerciſing ſuch a deſirable privilege, provided it be done with moderation and reſpect. It ſeems to have been a diſtinguiſhing excellence in the formation of the laws of England, that they owe their exiſtence to, and have ariſen from, the preſſure of exiſting circumſtances. Hence, till the conſtitution had ſmarted under actual injury, the legiſlature never ſeems to have thought of providing a remedy. Hence too another reaſon why the laws which we poſſeſs are ſo univerſally fitted to meet every exigency which has had actual exiſtence. If then a ſituation ſhould ariſe which the legiſlature could not have had in contemplation, or which it could not from the nature of things foreſee, could it be expected to have provided a law to meet that particular exigency? The anſwer to this is obvious—it could not; as the laws of England, as we before ſaid, ſeem not to have had exiſtence, till crimes made their appearance. If then a new exigence ſhould ariſe, which there is no written law to meet, and in theſe circumſtances the conductors of the ſtate machine ſhould be inclined to be arbitrary, we need not be ſurpriſed at finding ſome confuſion and oppoſition at ſuch a criſis. As ſuch an exigence did ariſe, the laws, with reſpect to the ſubject under conſideration, were undefined, or did not exiſt, conſequently we have an eaſy explanation of the reaſons for the diſturbances which took place at that period: and as the mild ſpirit of the people of England ſeldom exacts more than is neceſſary to the quiet of the ſtate, the printing of parliamentary debates has been permitted to go on with no other reſtraint than was neceſſary to make every perſon reſponſible for what he might advance; a reſponſibility which we apprehend will be thought juſt and reaſonable, and calculated for the good of the community. We might alſo mention a circumſtance in illuſtration of the above ideas on the origin of the Britiſh laws, and which met with much oppoſition at the time, particularly from thoſe obnoxious to it, viz. the re-modelling and extending of the laws reſpecting treaſon, the which ſeemed abſolutely neceſſary to the political exiſtence of this country, and ſo as to meet an exigence, the poſſibility of the exiſtence of which had hardly been dreamt of till it actually ſtared people in the face.

It happened to Mr. Wilkes to live at the beginning of the period of the deluge of Jacobiniſm, alluded to above. "The ſubſtance of his ſpeech to the inhabitants of Farringdon Ward Without, in December, 1792," ſufficiently demonſtrates his reflection and diſcernment. Whatever his former opinions might have been on political ſubjects, and whatever obloquy might have been caſt upon him on that account, we have no heſitation in ſaying, that the opinions there advanced will meet with the warmeſt approbation of every man not totally bewildered in the futile labyrinth of the perfectibility of Jacobinical philoſophiſm. We preſent it to our readers at length.

"Gentlemen,—I am happy at all times to comply with the wiſhes of this Ward; but particularly ſo at a period when we are called forth to expreſs our loyalty to the crown, and our attachment to the conſtitution of our country.

"I will not trouble you with many words; but I beg leave to expreſs my private ſentiments on this important occaſion. I am a firm friend to a limited monarchy, as a government founded on laws: a government which does not depend on the will or caprice of an individual, but reſts on known and written laws. Such a government beſt anſwers the great end deſigned by it,—to give ſecurity and ſafety to perſons and to property. This is the government under which we live.

"I am particularly attached to the houſe of Brunſwick. The laſt eighty years have been the happieſt and moſt proſperous in our annals: during that period the Brunſwick family has been on the throne. We are governed by wiſe

and equal laws; the ſame laws for the poor as for the rich, for every ſubject of the ſtate. Our perſons are ſafe, our property ſecure, and our commerce moſt extenſively flouriſhing; eſpecially during the reign of his preſent majeſty. I truſt the good ſenſe of the Engliſh nation, not to barter theſe important and ſplendid advantages in poſſeſſion, for any wild and extravagant ſpeculations—as ridiculous in theory as totally impoſſible in practice.

"Gentlemen, I am firmly attached to a limited monarchy. I have ſpent no ſmall part of my life abroad; in countries where the government depended on the will or the caprice of an individual, of a miniſter, a minion, or a miſtreſs; where no one was ſecure.

"One of the great advantages of our conſtitution is, that all is clearly defined, and the limits of each branch aſcertained. Now in a republican government there is a continued ſtruggle who ſhall be the greateſt. The Roman was the moſt famous republic; and witneſſed the contentions of Marius and Sylla, of Cæſar and Pompey, for pre-eminence. But here the line is clearly chalked out by law; no ſubject can with us be ſo ambitious, or ſo mad, as to contend for the ſovereign power. We are preſerved from all thoſe evils which neceſſarily attend a republican government.

"On theſe principles it is that I profeſs my regard for limited monarchy: a monarchy which is not above law, but is founded upon law, and ſecures freedom to the ſubject.

"Gentlemen, I ſhall not longer treſpaſs on your patience. I thought it proper to offer you the ſentiments of an individual, who is always ready to come forth in your ſervice; but the weight and the importance of your reſolutions muſt depend on the reſpectable meeting now aſſembled."

The remaining ſections from this ſpeech to the end of the work will in general be found intereſting; and the table of contents, given above, will help our readers to their reſpective ſubjects. At the end of this volume we have a *fac ſimile* plate, of a note from Lord Mansfield, acknowledging the receipt of Mr. Wilkes's Theophraſtus.

XI. MEMOIRS *of* CHARLES MACKLIN, *Comedian; with the dramatic Characters, Manners, Anecdotes, &c. of the Age in which he lived: forming an Hiſtory of the Stage during almoſt the whole of the laſt Century. And a chronological Liſt of all the Parts played by him.* 8vo. *pp.* 444. 8*s. boards.* Aſperne.

THE general avidity with which biographical accounts of men eminent in any ſituation, are received by the literary world, is a ſufficient proof of their utility, and of the amuſement which they afford to all claſſes of readers: the ſame circumſtance we apprehend will alſo be a ſufficient inducement to their frequent appearance in our pages: and hence too it is entirely the fault of the biographical writer if he be not favourably received by the public.

The work before us will generally be read with much intereſt, and we are only prevented from giving it our entire approbation, by obſerving, a circumſtance which might have been obviated at ſo eaſy a rate: the author had it in his power, not only without injury, but with advantage to the work, to ſuppreſs many anecdotes, which we are afraid will diſpleaſe the eye of delicacy, and which we regret he has not omitted on another account, viz. that their inſertion alone will prove the only barrier to the memoirs of Macklin occupying a diſtinguiſhed ſtation in the biographical library. We truſt, however, that a ſecond edition will remove what we think ſo great an impediment to an event ſo grateful to the feelings of every author.

The memoirs before us are not ſolely confined to Macklin, they enter largely into the hiſtory of the ſtage, more particularly during the early and middle periods of his theatrical career, and contain copious accounts of many diſtinguiſhed actors now no more. This method of treating biographical ſub-

jects meets with our decided approbation; as the entertainment which we generally meet with in works of this nature is usually in proportion to the extent with which the author enters into the events of contemporary scenes and characters. We give the author's idea in his own words.

"It is not within the province of these anecdotes to relate a regular life of Macklin, which has been already done in various forms, but to touch upon points of his long intercourse with the stage not generally known, and which might best elucidate the *manners* and *characters* of the times in which he lived."

The principal rules by which we would be guided in forming our opinion of works of this nature, are, that they shall contain nothing the most remotely offensive to good morals; that the narrative be well related, and its interest kept up, so as not to suffer the attention to flag; that a sufficient number of incidents be introduced, to produce a proper diversification of the subject, and that they be so well connected and explained, as to leave the reader nothing to guess.

We have already given our opinion as to the first of these rules; and we have nothing to object against the execution of the work with respect to the remainder. It is sprightly throughout, and every page produces something to arrest and fix the reader's attention. We shall, in this instance, deviate from our usual plan of giving an analysis, as we conceive it would be more injurious than useful to the work; and we shall, in consequence, barely mention, that it contains an account and anecdotes of many of the principal characters which have trod the London or the Dublin boards, for the greater part of the last century, with criticisms on their performances, and accounts of their favourable or unsuccessful *debûts* in almost all the principal characters in the British drama. We shall present our readers with a variety of extracts, which we apprehend will be found entertaining, and have no doubt but the work will be much read; we leave it, however, to the graver part of our readers to judge, after they shall have perused it, whether we compliment the morals of the present age by such an assertion.

The following account of young Macklin places the father in so respectable a point of view, that we are tempted to present it at length. It demonstrates the danger of dissipation under the brightest prospect in the most striking light; and shews that success and competency can alone be the reward of industry and frugality: that talents, unaccompanied by prudence, only hurry a man the faster to misery and destruction.

"Much about this time, his son, John Macklin, died, at not above the age of thirty-four or five, of a broken constitution, brought on by early dissipations. He was a young man of good talents, and received from his father a most excellent education, which would have fitted him for any situation of life, had he been governed by the rules of common prudence or discretion; but he was, unfortunately, one of those who considered his education and parts as exceptions against the censure of the world; and the indulgence of his parents, instead of inducing obedience, and being a spur to his industry, only made him the more careless in the economy of his health and fortune.

"Macklin at first designed him for the law, and for this purpose entered him in the Temple, where he furnished him with chambers, a library, &c. &c. rather above what he could afford, considering the casualty of his income. 'And what book, sir (said the veteran, in telling the circumstance), do you think I made him begin with? Why, sir, I'll tell you—the Bible—the Holy Bible.'—'The Bible, Mr. Macklin, for a lawyer!'—'Yes, sir—the propereſt and most scientific for an *honest* lawyer—as there you will find the foundation of all law, as well as all morality. And for this purpose, sir, I bought him a Polyglot bible, which cost me twenty pounds; and the dog knew how to make use of it, if he had had a mind, but he was idle and unmanageable—he had the early dissipations of his father about

him, but his education ought to have 'taught him better.'

"Left to his own government in chambers, he ſoon gave up what is called the dry ſtudy of law for the more flattering amuſements of Covent-Garden—and after a certain time, the only uſe it appeared he made of his books was, to give them a better chance of being better uſed by ſomebody elſe. In ſhort, he not only run out the little money his father gave him, but ſold his library, and every thing elſe he could lay hold on; apologiſing to his father, 'that the ſtudy of the law was not ſuited to the verſatility of his temper; but that if he would get him any ſituation in the army, he would uſe his utmoſt endeavours fully to atone for all paſt miſcarriages.'

"The fondneſs of a father accepted this apology; and Macklin, uſing his intereſt with the Marquis Townſhend, got him upon the eſtabliſhment at Woolwich, where he ſoon diſtinguiſhed himſelf in the ſeveral branches of mathematical knowledge preparatory to a military life, and for which this academy is ſo juſtly diſtinguiſhed.

"When he had finiſhed his ſtudies at Woolwich, he was appointed a *cadet*, and was ſent out to India in this capacity, where, ſoon after his landing, he obtained a commiſſion in the army. He was now on the high road to preferment, at a time of life beſt calculated to lay the foundations of a fortune, and with an appropriate education to further it to any extent which reaſonable hopes might expect; but all theſe availed him nothing (to ſpeak figuratively) *whilſt Mordecai ſtood at the gate*—his paſſions ſtood in the gate of his reaſon before him and his fortune, and turned aſide every thing which talents, education, and high recommendations might naturally lead him to expect.

* * * *

"And here it is neceſſary, in juſtice to his father's memory, to ſay, that no man took more pains to ſtrengthen his ſon's mind, both by education and good advice, than he did. In the early parts of his life, he took uncommon pains to give him an excellent education, which, to do the ſon juſtice, he had parts ſufficiently to cultivate. He had, beſides being a good Greek and Latin ſcholar, ſome conſiderable knowledge in the Hebrew, and in the French and Perſic languages; the laſt of which might have been very ſerviceable to him in India, if he had the diſpoſition to bring it to its proper uſe. He had likewiſe read the Engliſh claſſics with conſiderable attention; and, on the whole, could ſupport, when he thought proper, a ſhare in converſation with very conſiderable ability.

"His father, therefore, knowing what he could do, and likewiſe what his propenſities led him occaſionally to commit, conſtantly intereſted himſelf in ſecuring him the beſt intereſt he could in India, as well as giving him the beſt advice for his general conduct: he pointed out to him the ſuperior advantages he had over himſelf in point of education, protection, and outſet in life, and conjured him, by every ſentiment which he thought could arouſe his feelings, to avail himſelf of thoſe flattering affiſtances. Many of theſe letters (as well to his daughter as his ſon) do great credit to the experience and paternal affection of old Macklin: they do more; they ſhew a man not only intereſted in the affairs of his children, but in the moral duties of life; pointing out thoſe duties with great force of expreſſion, as the only ſure foundation of future happineſs.

"Judge, then, what he muſt feel, in having all his tender and unceaſing ſolicitations for his ſon's honourable advancement in life repaid by ſo diſgraceful a return! a return, which not only fruſtrated the preſent object, but cut up the laſt hope of ſerving him in any future ſituation.

"His father's kindneſs, however, ſtill prevailed; and he again took him under his roof and parental affections. Here he continued for ſome time a mere walking gentleman. At laſt the father, by way of giving him ſome employment, as well as ſome means to live by, propoſed his tranſlating ſome book, and pointed out to him *Le Monde Primitif*. He accepted the propo-

ſal, and the father ſoon after got him an engagement for this purpoſe. He proceeded on this work for ſome time; but his early diſſipations again broke out, ſo as to impair his conſtitution, and of courſe unfit him for buſineſs.

"It was in vain that his father threatened and remonſtrated—ſometimes actually turning him out of the houſe, and then taking him in again, trying every poſſible method to reclaim him. The conſequence of repeated irregularities at laſt produced a locked jaw, and it was with ſome difficulty he was enabled to ſwallow his victuals. In this wretched ſtate he languiſhed for ſome time, and, happily for him, died a few years before the father."

Towards the cloſe of the volume we have a few anecdotes of Macklin, from which we extract the following for the amuſement of our readers.

"One night, ſitting at the back of the front boxes with a gentleman of his acquaintance, (before the late alterations at Covent Garden theatre took place,) one of the under-bred box-lobby loungers of the preſent day ſtood up immediately before him, whoſe perſon being rather large, covered the ſight of the ſtage entirely from him. Macklin took fire at this; but managing himſelf with more temper than uſual, patted him gently on the ſhoulder with his cane, and, with much ſeeming civility, requeſted of him, 'that when he ſaw or heard any thing that was entertaining on the ſtage, to let him, and the gentleman with him, know of it: for you ſee, my dear ſir,' added the veteran, 'that at preſent we muſt totally depend on your kindneſs.' This had the deſired effect—and the lounger walked off."

"Talking of the *caution* neceſſary to be uſed in converſation amongſt a mixed company, Macklin obſerved, 'Sir, I have experienced, to my coſt, that a man, in any ſituation of life, ſhould never be off his guard—a *Scotchman* never is; he never lives a moment *extempore*, and that is one great reaſon of their ſucceſs in life."

"In a continuation of the ſame ſubject, he uſed to ſay, with ſome feeling of his former imprudence, 'It is a long time before men learn the art of *neutralizing in converſation*. I have, for a great part of my life, been endeavouring at it, but was never able to act up to it as I wiſhed. I could never ſit ſtill, hearing people aſſert what I thought wrong things, without labouring to ſet them right; and, often putting myſelf in a paſſion, without conſidering how few people in mixed companies are worth powder and ſhot, and how difficult it is to correct the errors of others, when we feel ourſelves ſo wedded to our own. But this folly generally attaches to men of inexperience, and lively imaginations: your dull fellows know better; they have little but *neutrality* to truſt to, and ſoon find out the policy of it."

"But, notwithſtanding ſome biting parts of Macklin's character, his converſation, at other times, was liberal, pleaſant, and inſtructive; and he generally obſerved, upon common things, in his own way, with ſingular force and perſpicuity. Speaking of one of our late naval victories during the American war, he exclaimed, 'Ah, ſir! an Engliſh man of war is the thing after all.—She ſpeaks all languages—is the beſt negociator, and the moſt profound politician in this iſland—She was always Oliver Cromwell's ambaſſador—She is one of the honeſteſt miniſters of ſtate that ever exiſted, and never tells a lie—Nor will ſhe ſuffer the proudeſt Frenchman, Dutchman, or Spaniard to bamboozle her, or give her a ſaucy anſwer."

We have ſelected the following extract from the appendix, as preſenting another inſtance of the amiable ſide of Mr. Macklin's character, with which we ſhall cloſe our review.

"The letters of Macklin to his ſon, whilſt in India, we have ſeen, and they contain not only the moſt affectionate regards of a father, but ſome of the moſt excellent precepts for the government of human life. What ſtill render theſe letters more creditable to Macklin, is, his noble contempt for money, when neceſſary to the honour and

intereſt of his ſon, and his never failing advice to him for attaining and preſerving the character of integrity.

"In one of theſe letters he ſays, 'There is no quality that commands more reſpect than *integrity*; none *freedom* and *independence*, more than *economy*. They are all I have, with induſtry, to depend upon; and ſhould you make them the rulers of your conduct, you muſt be happy; without them, you never can.'

"And in another letter he ſays, 'Let me repeat this doctrine to you, that he who depends upon *continued induſtry* and *integrity*, depends upon patrons of the nobleſt, the moſt exalted kind; they more than ſupply the place of birth and anceſtry, or even of royal patronage: they are the creators of fortune and fame, the founders of families, and never can diſappoint or deſert you."

XII. *A* TOUR *through the* BRITISH WEST INDIES, *in the Years* 1802 *and* 1803, *giving a particular Account of the Bahama Iſlands. By* DANIEL M'KINNEN, *Eſq.* 12*mo. pp.* 272. White.

IT will undoubtedly be allowed by the generality of readers, that books of travels are as eagerly ſought after, and as readily allowed an introduction into their libraries, as thoſe on any ſubject whatever; and the reaſon for this preference is ſufficiently obvious, if we conſider the inquiſitive diſpoſition of the human mind, which is conſtantly roving after novelty, with unwearied perſeverance. Accounts of travels in newly viſited or imperfectly deſcribed countries, muſt always of neceſſity contain ſomething more or leſs new even to the greater part of literary inquirers, and hence they poſſeſs a peculiar chance of a favourable reception from the learned world. If then, as we apprehend will readily be granted, books of this deſcription are ſo naturally and ſo univerſally held in eſtimation from the nature of the ſubject alone, without calling in the aid of any other circumſtance, it is peculiarly in favour of the authors of ſuch works, that they have only to keep up their narrative with ſpirit, and to take care leſt their veracity be called in queſtion, to inſure that ſucceſs ſo ardently wiſhed for by every writer, viz. the approbation and admiration of the learned, and, what is ſtill more deſirable, of poſterity.

If to the rules above enumerated for judging of works of this ſort, we add a proper attention to decency and good morals, we ſhall in general be able to form a pretty accurate eſtimate of the value of books of travels; which, however, in ſpite of the many defects by which they may incidentally be accompanied, will always be more or leſs the favourites of the literary inquirer.

Books of nearly all deſcriptions may perhaps be claſſed under two general heads, viz. ſuch as are read for entertainment, and ſuch as are uſeful for reference. Books of travels ought eminently to rank under both theſe claſſes, in order to maintain a diſtinguiſhed ſituation on the ſhelf of the library of the geographer and natural hiſtorian. Our idea on this ſubject will meet with a ready illuſtration in the voyages of our celebrated circumnavigators, Cook, Carteret, Wallis, &c. The accounts of theſe voyages are intereſting, both as to the variety of incident and the accuracy of the information they contain, which, though it may not keep them daily in the hands of readers, yet it will always enable them to maintain their places as books of reference; whilſt Anſon's voyage will never fail to pleaſe the general reader, but not ſo often be referred to, for obvious reaſons. It will be no diſparagement to the tour before us, if we ſay, that it rather claſſes with the firſt than with the ſecond of theſe voyages; it is, however, of a mixt kind, and though not always lively, it is never dull; and if it is not always ſpirited, thoſe parts which ſeem deficient in this circumſtance are rendered intereſting by containing information which will be read at a future time: it contains many intereſting pages, in which we here and there find an intereſting account of the condition of the ſlaves, and which, though

it will not do away our feelings as to the propriety of the cuſtom, yet it will contribute to mollify them, and lead us to thank the perſevering endeavours of a Wilberforce and his ſupporters, and to hope that they will ultimately be crowned with ſucceſs: we will, however, proceed to our analyſis of the work.

The author took his departure from England in the ſummer of 1802; and almoſt immediately introduces us to ſome intereſting remarks on the atmoſphere and the trade winds within the tropics, and from which we preſent our readers with an extract.

"The atmoſphere within the tropics to ſome conſtitutions is remarkably grateful. I was informed by a fellow-paſſenger, who had taken this voyage a few years before with a young perſon labouring under a ſevere pulmonic affection, which had confined him all the early part of the paſſage to his bed, that on approaching the tropic he appeared, as it were, ſuddenly to awake from a painful dream, and with extravagant ſigns of joy ran about the deck, exclaiming, that an oppreſſive load had been taken from his head. Nor is this wonderful; for I believe it has been found, that at certain ſeaſons of the year the weight of air within the tropics does not exceed one-half of that within the polar region. The changes, however, in the ſtate of the atmoſphere, though not always viſible, are certainly very ſenſible and frequent, affecting the more nervous with alternate depreſſion and elevation of ſpirits. From the vicinity of the Cape de Verd iſlands to Barbadoes, the climate continued nearly the ſame, and ſuch as I afterwards found it in the Weſt Indies."

After announcing his arrival at Barbadoes, he gives an account of Bridge town, the meanneſs of the appearance of which will probably not be expected by the generality of our readers, who have heard any account of the general tendency to luxury of the inhabitants of the Weſt Indies; the reaſons, however, for this circumſtance advanced by the author, are ſufficiently ſatisfactory, and will lead us to expect a ſimilar appearance in all towns in a climate ſuch as the one deſcribed, and the debilitating influence of which is pourtrayed in lively terms. The firſt chapter is concluded with a ſhort though intereſting hiſtorical account of the iſland from its firſt ſettlement to the preſent time, and of its preſent ſtate: before leaving it we are tempted to preſent our readers with another extract.

"I obſerved, as we entered the harbour, a Guinea ſhip at a ſmall diſtance, with a cargo of newly arrived ſlaves, who crowded to look through the port-holes, and hailed the ſight of land with a chorus of wild and joyful muſic, which was ſingularly affecting to perſons who knew how to ſympathize with them in their emotions. I was preſent afterwards as a number of them landed and paraded the ſtreets two by two. There was certainly nothing in their looks that indicated deſpondence or apprehenſion: on the contrary, they were well pleaſed, and ſeemed to anticipate an agreeable change of ſituation. The ſhip which brought them over was clean and well ventilated; and they were treated with apparent mildneſs. Much as every benevolent mind may feel for the abject condition of human nature in many eſſential reſpects, it is a conſolation to think, that whilſt a great deal remains undone, ſomething has been effected by the philanthropy of our country for the protection and comfort of this humble race of men."

From Barbadoes our author proceeded by St. Vincent's, St. Lucia, and Martinique, to Dominica, of which iſland we have a deſcription, as alſo of the town of Roſeau. In his paſſage from Dominica to Antigua, he ſailed nearly round Guadaloupe, but as he did not touch at it, he merely gives an account of the general appearance of the coaſt, which, by the way, is not much in favour of French liberty: off Baſſe Terre he was aſſailed by a ſtrong ſulphureous exhalation from the mountains near Point Petre, which a few years ago poured out a quantity of lava to the terror of the inhabitants.

The author next gives us a pleaſing account of the appearance of Antigua. The town of St. John's

is rather handſome for a Weſt India town. Some appropriate reflections on the government of theſe iſlands, and a ſhort ſketch of the early and preſent hiſtory and ſtate of that of Antigua, finiſhes the third chapter.

Our traveller returned from Dominica by way of Guadaloupe and Deſirade, to Barbadoes, in order to ſail for Jamaica. The difficulty of ſailing to windward in the Weſt Indies cauſes ſo little intercourſe between theſe iſlands and Jamaica, that the earlieſt news from Jamaica often paſſes by way of England to Barbadoes. After a few difficulties on the coaſt of Jamaica, our author landed ſafely at Kingſton, ſituated on the ſouth ſide of a plain not far from the foot of the Liguanea, or Ligany mountains. This city is neatly laid out, and the lower part of it principally built of brick: it is, however, unpaved, and the light nature of the ſoil ſurrounding the town, when ſtirred up by a ſtrong breeze, becomes extremely inconvenient to the inhabitants. We generally obſerve the author to find much fault with the roads in thoſe iſlands which he viſited; but in Jamaica they are moſtly good, and the face of the country admirable: in ſhort, the deſcription of the whole iſland is worthy of notice. The following account of the gaiety of the ſlaves, at certain ſeaſons, is intereſting: from it we find, that whether our ſugar be *blood-ſtained* or no, thoſe who labour for its production can ſometimes be merry.

"If the maſters, at certain periods of the year, devote themſelves in Spaniſh Town to the toils and exertion of buſineſs, I muſt not omit to mention the extraordinary exemption from them enjoyed by their ſlaves during my ſhort reſidence in this town. After Chriſtmas, for ſeveral ſucceſſive days, nothing was heard through this merry metropolis but the ſqueaking of fiddles, and the ſhouts and laughter of numerous throngs, which encircle two or three diſtinguiſhed buffoons and dancers belonging to every party. Theſe ſelect perſonages, who, like ſatyrs and bacchantes, with the moſt animated geſtures and groteſque movements, volunteer their exertions for the amuſement and admiration of the lookers on, generally ornament their ſable figures with tinſel or awkward finery, and repreſent the characters of kings or heroes. A perſon muſt be dead to all ſympathy who does not feel rouſed by the general ſentiment of obſtreperous joy that pervades the country. The effects, however, I underſtood, are ſometimes ſeverely felt by the negroes, from the inflammation kindled in their blood by violent and unremitted exertions."

We alſo ſelect the following account of its productions for the amuſement of our readers.

"The ſcenery of the flat in the vicinity of Spaniſh Town, where a great deal of land, which has been cleared, is ſuffered to grow up in coppice wood, is not unpleaſing. Through a great extent of this plain the ſoil conſiſts of the brick mould of Jamaica, perfectly adapted by nature for the manufacture of bricks. The paſture grounds or fields are ſurrounded by a ſtrong and convenient fencing of the blades of pengwyn, occaſionally intermixed with trees, much in the ſtyle of Engliſh hedge-rows. The coppice woods abound with the *caſhaw*; and on each ſide of the road I obſerved the fragrant *poponax*, and the prickly tubes or ſtalks of a common ſpecies of *cactus*. I ſhould not omit to mention the majeſtic ſilk cotton trees, which often remain, as well as the *caſſia*, although the poet has interdicted them:

'Nor let his nectar, nor his ſilken pods,
The ſweet-ſmell'd caſſia or vaſt *ceiba* ſpare.' GRAINGER.

One of theſe magnificent ceibas forms almoſt a complete canopy, with its branches, over the wide road from Spaniſh Town to Kingſton.

"The birds which you commonly find on the plains are the mocking-bird, a ſort of gregarious blackbird, and the Turkey buzzard, or carrion crow of Jamaica, which is eſteemed of ſo much conſequence in cleanſing the country from putrefying animal ſubſtances, that its life is protected by a law of the iſland. This large and tame-

bird of the vulturine ſpecies abounds in the fields. At ſunriſe it appears generally to ſeat itſelf near the road on the limb of a tree, *atque alas pandere ad æſtivum ſolem*—drying its feathers after the dews of night preparatory to its flight.

"Moſt of our domeſtic animals imported into Jamaica have become naturalized, and thrive apparently as well as in England. Some parts, particularly the pariſh of St. Anne, on the north ſide of the iſland, where the herbage, under the influence of ſeaſonable rains, is more luxuriant, are eſteemed favourable to the increaſe of black cattle. But the effect of the heat on ſeveral northern ſtrangers was remarkable. I ſaw a black horſe in a friend's ſtable, which in the courſe of a few months had become perfectly brown; and many of the imported ſheep in his pen were half ſtript of their wool, which becomes gradually converted into hair. Of the tame fowls, galenas and turkies ſeem moſt prolific, and beſt ſuited to the climate."

The fifth chapter contains a general deſcription of the Bahamas, a ſeries of iſlands ſeven hundred miles in extent, and which range from near St. Domingo to beyond the ſouthern extremity of Eaſt Florida, forming the outermoſt boundary of the gulf of that name. The danger and difficulty of the navigation amongſt theſe iſlands has prevented the obtaining of an accurate account as yet of their number, ſituation, and names. Such groupes or larger iſlands, however, as have obtained names, are here enumerated, beginning with thoſe neareſt St. Domingo, and proceeding towards the north weſt; they are, "1. Turk's Iſlands.—2. The Caucus or Caicos.—3. The Heneagas.—4. Mayaguana.——5. Crooked Iſland Groupe.—6. Long Iſland.—7. Watlings.——8. The Exumas.—9. St. Salvador.—10. Eleuthera and Harbour Iſland.—11. Providence.—12. Andros.—13. Lucaya or Abaco.—14. Bahama. Beſides theſe iſlands, there are "two extenſive ſand-banks, which underlay a wide extent of ocean, called the Great and Little Bahama Banks, the boundaries of which are in many places marked by an indefinite number of quays* and iſlets."

The iſland of Providence, nearly one of the moſt north weſterly of the Bahamas, is the ſeat of government, but was viſited by the author almoſt the laſt in order, conſequently the account of it comes towards the latter end of the volume.

Our traveller begins his account of the iſlands above mentioned, with the Turk's Iſlands, probably ſo named from a plant with which they abound (the *Cactus coronatus*, or *Nobilis*, of botaniſts,) which bears a ſtriking analogy to a Turkiſh cap or turban. Theſe iſlands are only important for their natural ſalt-ponds, of which we have a deſcription, as alſo of the proceſs of making the ſalt, the quantity produced, and the regulations reſpecting its exportation, &c. The ſeventh chapter, containing an account of the Caicos, contains little intereſting; their name is ſaid to be derived from a ſpecies of native wild plum. Some few traces of the aborigines of theſe iſlands ſtill remain. The eighth chapter contains an account of the Heneagas: the ninth of the Hogſties, Ragged Iſland, Mayaguana, and the French Keys. Theſe two chapters contain nothing peculiarly entertaining to the general reader, except an account of the

"* Quays are deſcribed as ſmall ſandy iſlands appearing a little above the ſurf of the water, with only a few buſhes or weeds upon them, and abounding (eſpecially at any diſtance from the main) with turtle and amphibious animals. Turtle chooſe the quieteſt and moſt unfrequented places for laying their eggs, which are to a vaſt number in the ſeaſon, and the quays would be ſeldom ſeen but for this, except by pirates. Veſſels from Jamaica and the other governments make voyages to them, called Turtling. Some quays which have been in continual view, as thoſe nigh Jamaica, are obſerved within our time to be entirely waſhed away and loſt, and others daily waſting.—Introduction to a General Hiſtory of the Pirates, by Captain Johnſon, page 24."

wreckers, a uſeful hardy ſet of people, who frequent theſe groupes of iſlands and rocks terrible to mariners, but who, like ſome of their more northern brethren, had rather ſave a wreck than prevent one. We have alſo ſome uſeful hints to ſeafaring people with reſpect to the dangerous navigation of thoſe channels.

Our traveller's next deſtination was Crooked Iſland, where he landed at Portland harbour: after giving a ſhort deſcription of Caſtle Iſland, which lies near it, he proceeds to give an account of the beach, and a ſalt-pond; of the appearance of the country; of Pitt's Town, ſo named after Mr. Pitt; and concludes the tenth chapter with an account of ſome of its natural productions. The whole of this chapter is much more entertaining than ſeveral of the preceding ones, a circumſtance apparently owing entirely to the author's longer reſidence on the iſland, and conſequently from a greater opportunity for making extended obſervations.

This chapter, amongſt many other intereſting remarks on the natural productions of Crooked Iſland, amongſt which are ſome on cotton, &c. contains the following account of a natural curioſity, which we preſent to our readers.

"Previous to my departure I took occaſion to viſit a great natural curioſity, an extenſive excavation of the rocks, which, from the ſingular reſemblance of its interior to ſome old dilapidated ſtructure, very much reminded me of one of Mrs. Radcliff's ruinous and myſterious caſtles. At the baſe of a cliff facing the ſhore, the rock, which is of a looſe and friable texture, appears to have been expoſed to the violent action of the breakers, and the cavities have been ſhaped in groteſque figures, and emboſſed or wrought into holes, every where ſmoothed by the lambent water. The principal cave is at ſome few paces from this beautiful grotto, with which it has apparently no communication, and you are obliged to enter it by deſcending from an aperture in the rock above. Within this cave the devaſtation of the water, evident in various places throughout the iſland, has left more remarkable traces. In ſome ſpots the top appears as if completely demoliſhed, in others it is worn and fretted into regular cavities and ſhapes, giving it an air of Gothic ceiling, and the ſtalactites and incruſtations on the ſide walls (if they may be ſo called) have a damp and mouldy appearance, tinged with occaſional hues of green and light blue. In various parts the wild fig-trees, which are particularly fond of moiſture, have penetrated into the receſſes, and ſhot their bearded roots like cluſters of columns on the ſides or through the holes in the roof, which admit the light, and in ſome places the ſun's rays. It extends in a variety of capricious and romantic figures to a diſtance which has never been yet traced; and the imagination, prone to the marvellous, has led ſome perſons to believe that it runs nearly acroſs the iſland. The bottom was covered with a concretion, many feet deep, of ſome elaſtic* ſubſtance reſembling mould, but which is not poſſeſſed of any vegetative power. A philoſophic gentleman conceived it was an accumulation for many ages of the dung of the bats which ſwarm in the dark receſſes of this ſingular cave. Perhaps it may be going too far back for a cauſe, to aſcribe it to a depoſit of marine ſubſtances at ſome very remote period by the ſea."

The eleventh chapter contains an account of Acklin's Iſland, cloſe to Crooked Iſland, being only ſeparated from it by a channel, which is fordable at its narroweſt part. The author gives a ſhort deſcription of the country, of a cotton plantation, which is intereſting, and of the Flamingo, which feeds on the coaſt; ſome obſervations on the temperature of Crooked Iſland, cloſe this chapter. The twelfth gives a ſhort account of Long Iſland, which our author paſſed by in his way to St. Salvador. He ſailed by Exuma in the night, conſequently it is barely mentioned.

* Is this Elaſtic Bitumen or Mineral Caoutchouc? M. R. EDIT.

St. Salvador was the first on which Columbus landed, and consequently the first place which he saw after leaving Europe. It was called St. Salvador by Columbus, as a memorial of his deliverance from the perils, and the attainment of the object of his voyage. The Indian name was Guanahani; and though named by its immortalized European discoverer, was called, till lately, *Cat Island*. A short history, a description of its present state and commerce, and a short account of its productions, close the thirteenth chapter.

From St. Salvador our traveller proceeded to New Providence, the seat of government of the Bahama Islands. An account of this island, its produce, &c. occupies the fourteenth chapter, the general contents of which are, description of the harbour of Nassau; its trade; government of the Bahama Islands; judicial establishment; agricultural society of the Bahamas; causes of the failure of the cotton crops; general description of the country. The whole chapter is interesting; the author, however, has omitted, in his list of the contents, an account of a sale of slaves at which he was present, and which we shall present our readers.

"I was witness to the sale of a pretty numerous cargo, which was conducted with more decorum, with respect to the slaves, than I had expected. They were distributed mostly in lots from five to twenty in each; but some of the boys and girls were disposed of separately. On the neck of each slave was slung a label specifying the price which the owner demanded, and varying between two and three hundred dollars, according to age, strength, sex, &c. This cargo was composed, as generally happens, of slaves from different nations, and speaking languages unintelligible to each other. Some apprehensions prevailed, notwithstanding all the expedients which had been used to convince them to the contrary, that they were brought over to be fatted and eaten. I had an opportunity of observing two or three the day after the sale in the hands of benevolent masters, purchased for domestic servants, who seemed much delighted with their kind treatment, as well as change of situation. Instead of being naked, they were clothed (in this climate as usual) in woollens; their food was much superior to what they had ever known before; they found themselves lodged in habitations abounding in comforts, some of them indeed superior to their comprehension; and in the streets they beheld many of their own colour, whose appearance, friendship, and hilarity had the most powerful influence in rendering them contented and happy in their new scene of life. I shall not presume to touch upon a subject of so much gravity and importance as the slave-trade, which has engaged all the eloquence and almost exhausted the attention of parliament: but whilst I applaud the philanthropy which still advocates the abolition of this traffic, I must remark, that I have found the opinion of many liberal and enlightened strangers in the West-Indies undergo some relaxation on becoming acquainted with the actual situation and character of the negroes. Whether most of the persons of this description, with whom I conversed, felt the bias of some personal interest, or the contagion of an opposite opinion, by associating with the proprietors of slaves; or whether, on a familiar view of what is vicious, it becomes less obnoxious to our feelings, I cannot pronounce. But, with respect to myself, I must frankly confess, that at times I found an inclination to pardon something of the supposed criminality of transporting them from Africa, on comparing their destitute and wretched state when first imported, with their condition under the treatment of good masters. Still it was a moment when I forgot the unfeeling and often capricious cruelties exercised by superintendants and people of colour (their worst domestic tyrants), instances of which cannot be controverted or ever excused by those who have seen them and felt '*les angoisses que fait éprouver à une ame fiere et sensible le spectacle d'une injustice.*' Yet, whatever may be the horror we justly feel at the idea of their perpetual bondage, it will be recollected that

they are not often endowed with that ſpirit of independence and dignity of ſentiment which render it inſupportable to a generous mind. On this principle Las Caſas felt juſtified, it is ſaid, in relieving the ſlavery of the high-ſpirited Indian nations by promoting the introduction of negroes! The cauſe of humanity, however, has been very little indebted to him by this expedient: for the Indians in the iſlands have nearly periſhed, and the negroes continue ſlaves."

Having been already ſufficiently copious in our account of, and extracts from, this work, we cloſe the ſubject with the table of contents of the remaining two chapters, and merely ſtate that they are both intereſting—the account of Black Beard, and of the attack of Lieut. Maynard on him, in the fifteenth, particularly ſo.

"Chapter XV.—Hiſtorical account of New Providence!—Black Beard the pirate.——Governor Woodes Rogers.——Colonel De Veaux's conqueſt of the iſland in 1783.

"Chapter XVI.—The author proceeds from New Providence—paſſes the Berry Iſles.—Short deſcription of Andros.——Bimini Iſlands.—Eleuthera and Harbour Iſlands.—Courſe taken by Columbus through the Bahamas.—Abaco.—Great Bahama.—The aborigines.—Florida ſtream.—Arrival at Charleſtown."

XIII. ANNALS *of* BOTANY, *for* 1804, *Vol.* 1. *Part II.* 8*vo.* 7*s.* 6*d.* White.

HAVING already given in our laſt number a full account of the plan and deſign of the Annals of Botany, we ſhall enter into an analyſis of the ſecond part of this ſcientific work, without any farther preface, except ſaying, that it is every way as reſpectable as the one which has paſſed under our review.

The firſt paper contains "ſome account of the Sago Palm (Metroxylon Sago), from the manuſcripts of the late Dr. Kœnig, and from a ſpecimen of the inflorescentiæ, in the poſſeſſion of the Right Hon. Sir Joſeph Banks, Bart." The ſago palm not having hitherto been deſcribed in a ſatisfactory manner, the author of the preſent paper has availed himſelf of the permiſſion of Sir Joſeph Banks, to arrange "the different fragments of deſcription and obſervations on this vegetable in the late Dr. Kœnig's manuſcripts" now in the poſſeſſion of that learned baronet: "and to make a drawing from a ſpecimen of part of a raceme ſent by Dr. Kœnig," which, though injured by time and the wreck of the ſhip which brought it over, ſtill remained in a ſufficient ſtate of preſervation to illuſtrate the author's obſervations. The account of the Palmæ, given at the beginning of the paper, and of this ſpecies in particular, is worthy of attention; indeed the ſtudent in botany will read it with avidity. The communication is accompanied by a plate, containing a figure of one of the amenta, which will facilitate the comprehenſion of the deſcription. The author alſo preſents us with all that is known of the natural hiſtory of the plant.

The next paper, the thirteenth from the beginning of the work, contains an "account of a new ſpecies of plantain, called Abacà, from the Spaniſh of Don Luis Nee." (Anales de Ciencias Naturales, vol. iv. p. 128.) "Abacà is a name which the natives of the Philippine Iſles apply both to the vegetable fibres of which they make their cordage, and the plant that yields them. This is a ſpecies of plantain tree, the ſame which is called by Rumpf (*Herbarium Amboinenſe*, vol. v. p. 139) Muſa Sylveſtris, and in the Malay language *Piſſang Utan*. It is found wild on the Philippine and Mendanao Iſles, and is alſo moſt carefully cultivated, on account of the ſingular advantages which the inhabitants have learned to derive from it." The deſcription of this valuable ſhrub, the account of its preparation, and of the cordage and cloth produced from its fibres, are intereſting, and ſhew the care of the Author of nature over mankind. We preſent our readers with the following extract, containing an account of ſome of the proceſſes

which it undergoes previous to its being formed into cordage and cloth.

"When the fruit becomes ripe, the ſtem periſhes, as in other herbaceous plants, but a progeny ſurvives in the ſuckers, which by this time have made their appearance. As the old trunks are not proper for uſe, the natives uſually cut them down when a year and half old, at which age this may be done with advantage. The ſtems being cut off near the roots, and at the upper extremity a little below the leaves, are ſlit open longitudinally, in order to ſeparate the medullary ſubſtance from the fibrous ſtrata, of which the outer are harder and ſtronger, forming the *bandaià* uſed in the fabrication of cordage; the inner conſiſt of finer fibres, and yield the *lupis*, uſed for weaving the *nipis*, and other more delicate fabrics, and the intermediate layers are converted into what is called *tupoz*, of which the *guinarras* are made.

"All theſe layers of fibres are ſaturated with a thickiſh fluid; to clear them from which they are cut into ſhreds, two or three inches wide, and dreſſed like flax in a ſort of heckle or long piece of wood, furniſhed with three narrow knives, which, being held in the right hand, the ſhreds are managed with the left, and thus reduced into fibres, and are by this proceſs cleared from the fluid with which they are impregnated. In this ſtate they are dried in the ſun, picked, and applied to different uſes, according to their different qualities. Thoſe intended for cordage, &c. undergo no further proceſs; but the others are rendered more ſoft and pliable, by beating, with a wooden mallet; they are then faſtened to each other, by means of almoſt inviſible knots, wound into balls, and committed to the loom."

The author proceeds with an account of the variety of cloths and cordage produced from it, of their comparative value, and concludes the paper with a corrected, or reformed character of the genus.

The fourteenth article is "A monograph of the genus Tilia, by Profeſſor Ventenat."*

Linnæus was only acquainted with two ſpecies of Tilia, which he named *Americana* and *Europæa*. Botaniſts, however, ſince his time, have diſcovered ſeveral more, particularly in America; hence the preſent author is induced to give a more accurate monograph of this genus than has hitherto appeared. The ſeveral ſpecies which he enumerates, after neceſſarily changing the names of the two known to Linnæus, and forming two ſubdiviſions of the genus, are, Tilia, Microphylla, (T. *europ. Lin. var.* 3. *Spec. Plant.* p. 733.) T. Platyphyllos, (T. *europæa, Lin. var. a. Sp. Plant.* p. 733.) T. Glabra (T. *americana. Lin. Sp. Plant*, p. 733.) T. Pubeſcens. (T. *Pubeſcens*, Hort. Kew.) T. Rotundifolia. (T. *alba*, Hort. Kew). T. Heterophylla. The author firſt gives a generic character, and then his alterations in, and additions to, the ſpecific ones, and renders the whole more uſeful by giving as many ſynonymes as poſſible; ſome intereſting and uſeful obſervations on the natural hiſtory of the Tiliæ, or lime-trees, cloſe the ſubject.

The fifteenth paper contains, "Enſatarum Ordo. *Autore* Joh. Bellenden Gawler, *Armigero.*"—This paper is written entirely in Latin, and occupies twenty-ſeven pages. The author firſt lays down the character of the order—Enſatæ or Sword-leaved Plants; and then gives a Synopſis of the Genera—which are, Crocus, Trichonema, Geiſſorhiza, Heſperantha, Sparaxis, Ixia, Anomatheca, Tritonia, Watſonia, Gladiolus, Melaſphærula, Antholyza, Babiana, Wachendorfia, Dilatris, Ariſtea, Wetſenia, Lapeyrouſia, Moræa, Galaxia, Ferraria, Iris, Marica, Tigridia, Siſyrinchium, Pardan-

* "This diſſertation was firſt publiſhed in Spaniſh, in the *Anales de Ciencias Naturales*, afterwards rather enlarged in the fourth volume of the memoirs of the National Inſtitute, to which learned body it had been read before it made its appearance in the above Spaniſh work."

thus. We refer the reader to the work itself for the generic descriptions; the specific ones are not given by the author, but he enumerates the names. This paper is elaborately written, and will be consulted by the botanist with attention.

The sixteenth is an elaborate paper, entitled, "Observations on the Rivulariæ, and the Genera related to them. From the German of Dr. Roth." (*Roth's Neue Beyträge zur Botanik*, vol. i. p. 239.)—Dr. R. has taken much pains in the paper before us, to elucidate three genera of that difficult class Cryptogamia, viz. Rivularia, Linckia, and Tremella, every one of which approaches more or less perfectly to the state of jelly. Our limits will not admit of any abridgement of this valuable and elaborate essay, except such a one as would inevitably injure the whole; we shall, therefore, refer the reader to the work itself for fuller information, and merely state, that the author lays down accurate, easy to be comprehended, and comparative generic descriptions; and then gives the names and characters of the species, with appropriate descriptive accounts.—The young botanical student will thank him for thus smoothing his way, where a helping hand is almost indispensibly necessary.

The subject of the seventeenth paper is, "The Red Byssus, (*Byssus Jolithus*, Linn.) From the German of the Rev. Mr. Starke." (*Schrader's Journ. fur die Botanik.*) This paper offers a few conjectures with a view to settling the different opinions which botanists still maintain with respect to the character of this byssus.

The subject of the eighteenth paper is, "Observations on the Genus Phyllachne, by Professor Swartz." (*Schrader's Journ. fur die Botanik*, vol. i. p. 278.) This essay contains a fuller description of this plant than has hitherto appeared. The author contends that it might be included in the now rejected Linnæan class, Dicœcia Gynandria, and that it would in consequence be a proof of the accuracy of Linnæus. Wherever it may eventually be placed, we apprehend that the writer's accurate description will materially assist in ranging it amongst its congeners. A plate, containing the parts of fructification, highly magnified, will also considerably assist its proper location.

The next communication is from the pen of the same author, and contains "Observations on Forstera Sedifolia, *Linn.*" (*Schrader's Journ. für die Botanik*, vol. ii. p. 31.) This essay is accompanied by a plate, containing the parts of fructification, highly magnified, which, along with the description, will contribute to a proper placing of the plant. The translator says, that the one described in the last paper, Lobelia, and a hitherto nondescript from New Holland, form a new natural order, next to the Campanulaceæ of Jussieu: he proposes giving a proper description of this order at another time.

The twentieth paper is a continuation of the "Supplementary Remarks on Professor Willdenow's new Edition of Linnæus' Species Plantarum, Berlin, 1797-1800.—From the German of Dr. Roth." We shall, as in our last number, present our readers with the genera, in which any alterations or emendations are made, or into which any new species are to be inserted: we refer our readers to the work for the particulars. They are, Dactylis, (*stricta, littoralis.*) Cynosurus, (*coracanus.*) Festuca, (*divaricata, Alopecurus, phanicoides.*) Bromus, (*squarrosus, asper, littoreus, arvensis, racemosus, triflorus, madritensis, maximus, gracilis.*) Stipa, (*elongata, barbata.*) Arundo, (*Karka, stricta.*) Rottboellia, (*filiformis, incurvata, biflora, salina, monandra.*) Hordeum, (*marinum, pratense, maritimum, seculinum.*) Triticum, (*squarrosum, Bonapartei, junceum, repens, fragile.*) Scabiosa, (*stellata.*) Galium, (*spurium,*) hispidum. [Valantia, *tricornis.*] tricorne.) Valantia, (*Aparine.*) Plantago, (*pilosa, villosa, apra, psyllium, stricta.*) Echium, (*tenue, parviflora.*) The proficient in botany will readily discover that the principal emendations, or new species above enumerated, are in that, in some degree, difficult natural order, the grasses, which, from their structure, were more likely to remain undefined than plants possessing

larger flowers: we have given the above liſt with a view of putting the ſtudent on his guard, and of informing him where to meet with more accurate information at an eaſy rate.

The next article is, "Memoirs of the Life and Botanical Travels of Andrè Michaux, by Deleuze." *(Annales du Muſeum d'Hiſtoire Naturelle, 15 dieme cahier.)* We were highly gratified in peruſing this account of the life and labours of this unwearied and ſcientific traveller. Mankind will probably be much indebted to his perſeverance and knowledge.

Andrè Michaux was originally a farmer at Satory, a royal domain, ſituated in the park of Verſailles, where the advice of a friend, and his own taſte, led him to dedicate a part of his farm wholly to experiments. His ſucceſs in cultivating ſeveral valuable exotics, a propenſity to travelling entertained by him ever after reading Quintus Curtius, in the fourteenth year of his age, and the grief occaſioned by the loſs of a beloved wife, induced him to turn his attention more forcibly to the accompliſhment of the prevailing deſire of his younger years, the reſult of which was, a ſettled reſolution of putting his deſigns in execution. After reſigning his farm in favour of his brother, he undertook a courſe of ſtudy calculated to fit him for the full attainment of the object which he had in view in his intended travels, viz. the attainment of the natural hiſtory of thoſe countries which he might viſit.

The deſcriptions of the countries conquered by Alexander, given by Quintus Curtius, led our traveller to turn his eyes on Aſia, as the firſt field for his future exertions. Here he ſpent three years, and returned to his native country, enriched with a magnificent collection of plants and ſeeds, and ſome monuments of antiquity. His original deſign was to return to Aſia, and to endeavour to penetrate towards Caſhmire and Thibet; but the French government preferring that he ſhould viſit America, he made no heſitation, and prepared for his journey with all imaginable alacrity. During the ſpace of eleven years, which he remained in America, he traverſed it in every direction, in order to acquaint himſelf as fully as poſſible with the natural productions of that extenſive continent; but a mere acquaintance with its productions was not all he ſought for, the aſcertaining the vegetable geography of the country was one of his darling objects, and the determining of the peculiar latitudes where plants thrive moſt luxuriouſly has been another conſequence of his labour. The diſturbances which had taken place during his abſence, compelled him to think of returning to his native country, where he at length arrived, after being ſhipwrecked on the Dutch coaſt; his collections were completely wetted, but not damaged more than might have naturally been expected.

The ſame circumſtances which induced his return to France, and a neceſſity of attending to his private concerns, gave him an opportunity of compoſing his Hiſtoire des Chênes de l'Amerique, which he had ſcarcely completed, the engravings not being finiſhed, when it was propoſed to him to viſit New Holland, with Capt. Baudin, and his aſſociates. This offer he accepted, on condition of not being obliged to leave the Iſle of France, ſhould he prefer ſtaying there, to proceeding to the place of Baudin's deſtination.

During his reſidence at the Iſle of France he conceived the deſign of viſiting Madagaſcar, which he thought would open an ample and yet unbeaten field for his exertions; and he felt more inclined to follow up his intention, from conſidering that Capt. Baudin was attended by a ſufficient number of naturaliſts to accompliſh the object of his voyage, to its fulleſt extent. He therefore permitted Baudin to depart without him, and after making proper arrangements, he took his departure from the Iſle of France to Madagaſcar, where he arrived without any material obſtruction. Immediately on his arrival he reſumed his operations with his accuſtomed vigor and ſucceſs, and braved the fatigue of his employment, and the unhealthineſs of the climate for three months;

he fancied that his frame was become ſo completely inured to every change of climate and ſoil, that he had nothing to dread, but at length being ſeized with the fever of the country, it put a period to his life and labours on the ſecond attack. Thus fell Michaux, a ſacrifice to the ardent purſuit of his beloved ſtudy, leaving the world and ſcience to lament the loſs of a man unwearied in his inveſtigation of the knowledge of nature, and to whoſe perſeverance and knowledge mankind will long be indebted, in ſituations where poſſibly the ſound of his name may ſcarcely have penetrated, or perhaps may be forgotton by thoſe reaping the fruit of his exertions, as it was his conſtant practice to ſow ſuch ſeeds as he had with him, in every ſituation where his experience taught him to expect them to flouriſh.

The twenty-ſecond article, "A few Botanical Obſervations, by Charles Kœnig, F. L. S." contains ſome corrections of the errors into which ſeveral learned botaniſts have fallen, with reſpect to ſeveral plants. The writer's acceſs to the Bankſian Herbarium peculiarly qualifies him for ſuch an undertaking, and we truſt he will avail himſelf of ſuch a deſirable opportunity to give the world as many obſervations of this ſort as poſſible. The firſt paragraph corrects an error into which M. Ventenat has fallen, in charging Linnæus with inaccuracy, with reſpect to his deſcription of the Agyneia *impubes*. Whereas M. V 's deſcription completely ſuits the Phyllanthus *baceiformis*.

The next contains ſome remarks on an incorrect aſſertion of Profeſſor Vahl, and in which he was followed by Willdenow, with reſpect to the Pterocarpus *Bohrii*, and the Apalotoa *ſpicata*, being the ſame plant. The author next gives us an accurate character, and more complete deſcriptions, derived from perfect ſpecimens, of Canarium commune, Linn. and its congenor C. Pimela. [*Pimela nigra of Loureiro.*] This paragraph is followed by a more accurate deſcription of the Uſteria *guineënſis*, in which Willdenow has committed an error. The author next corrects a miſtake into which M. Hagen has fallen, by erecting three capſules of three ſpecies of *Meſembryanthemum* into a new genus, under the name of *Rediviva*. The communication is cloſed with correcting an error of Profeſſor Burmann, who had given an imperfect ſpecimen of a ſpecies of mimoſa the name of Adiantum truncatum, from its reſemblance to the latter genus. A full deſcription of this mimoſa, to which the author gives the ſpecific appellation *decipiens*, is afterwards given, accompanied with a plate, illuſtrative of the author's idea. A plate containing the parts of fructification of the two ſpecies of Canarium, the Uſteria *guineënſis*, the Agyneia *impubes*, and the Apalotoa *guineënſis*, alſo accompanies this uſeful paper.

The twenty-third paper is by the ſame author; the ſubject is "On Vegetable Monſtroſities, with ſome account of a pretended Ranunculus Bellidiflorus." Some of the honeſt German and other botaniſts having been deceived, by ſome unlucky wags, with ſpecimens of a ſpecies of Ranunculus having flowers of the Bellis Perennis growing on it. Sir Joſeph Banks and others ſubjected one ſent from Germany, but which originally came from Switzerland, to an *experimentum crucis*, by ſoaking the wonderful plant in boiling water; the conſequence was as might have been expected, the head of the daiſy immediately ſeparated itſelf from the ſtalk of the Ranunculus, and the wonder immediately ceaſed.

"Mr. Bauer, of Kew, made a drawing of a part of the plant, ſufficient to explain the fraud, which was ſigned by a number of naturaliſts preſent at the detection. From this an engraving was made by the late Mr. Mackenzie; of which only a comparatively ſmall number of impreſſions having been diſtributed among botaniſts, we obtained permiſſion to give it greater publicity through the channel of this publication."

The plate alluded to, repreſents the upper part of the hairy ſtalk of this feigned monſtroſity, with two flower buds of the Ranunculus, and the expanded flower of the Bellis Perennis, both in its fixed

and detached ſtate. It alſo contains *fac ſimiles* of the ſignatures W. Hudſon, J. E. Smith, John Zier, Philip Werner, Joſ. Banks, J. Dryander, Joſ. Dickſon, Eld. Afzelins, R. A. Saliſbury.

The reviewing part is occupied by "*Methodus qua omnes detectos Lichenes ſecundum organa carpomorpha ad genera, ſpecies et varietates redigere, atque obſervationibus illuſtrare, tentavit, E. Acharius*, M. D. Phyſ. provinc. Oſtrogoth, &c. &c. cum tab. æn. icones novarum ſpecierum et figuras charact. generic. exhibentibus; and Ventenat's *Jardin de la Malmaiſon*. Livraiſon iv.—viii. The reviews of theſe works are conducted in the ſame reſpectable manner as thoſe noticed in our laſt number.

The miſcellaneous articles, of which we ſhall merely preſent the titles, are—Expedition of Captain Flinders.—Account of Chevalier Pallas.—Other Ruſſian Intelligence.—New Vegetable Muſcipula.——Arrival of New Chineſe Plants.—Two New South American Plants.—Death of Cavanilles.—Death of Leſtiboudois.—Account of Daniſh Botaniſts.—Plants of the Iſle of France.—Claude Aubriet.

XIV. REFLECTIONS *on the* COMMERCE *of the* MEDITERRANEAN. *Deduced from actual Experience, during a Reſidence on both Shores of the Mediterranean Sea: containing a particular Account of the Traffic of the Kingdoms of Algiers, Tunis, Sardinia, and Sicily, the Morea, &c. &c. &c. with an impartial Examination into the Manners and Cuſtoms of the Inhabitants, in their Commercial Dealings: and a particular Deſcription of the Britiſh Manufactures properly adapted for each Country, &c. By* JOHN JACKSON, *Eſq. F. S. A. pp.* 200. 8*vo.* 6*s. boards.* Clarke and Sons.

THERE are, we apprehend, few people who are ſo far ignorant of the circumſtances of the times as to be totally unacquainted with the means by which Great Britain has attained, and by which ſhe ſtill retains her conſequence and high rank in the ſcale of nations: and there are ſtill fewer who do not know that ſhe owes her diſtinguiſhed character, in the eyes of the whole world, to her commerce, that fertile ſource of her wealth and dignity, and the powerful ſinew of her ſtrength. If, then, Great Britain be ſo much indebted to trade, for the origin and ſupport of her preſent wealth and conſequence, it will be incumbent on every one who feels himſelf intereſted in her proſperity and glory, to encourage every plan which ſeems to promiſe an addition to the riches of her inhabitants, and that, the more particularly, when it may be reduced to practice at an eaſy expence, and with almoſt a certainty of advantage.

The author of this treatiſe is an Engliſhman, and one who ſeems to have the intereſt of his native country at heart: who, having reſided ſome time on both ſhores of the Mediterranean, and having obſerved the immenſe benefit which might be derived from a properly conducted and a well regulated commerce in that quarter, very properly ſubmits his ideas on the ſubject to the Britiſh public, with an ardent wiſh that they may be adopted, and that they may become an additional ſource of wealth and proſperity to the united kingdoms.

It is a fault into which moſt writers fall, who are more deſirous of giving a ſplendid than a uſeful performance on any practical ſubject, that they proceed about their buſineſs much too learnedly; hence common life, and common practice, appear to be below their notice, or out of their way; and little things, which, though not eſſential to a fine work, are abſolutely ſo to a practical one, ſeldom form a material part of their performances on ſubjects of this nature. The author of the preſent work, however, is in little danger of falling into an error of this ſort, he is a practical man; and as communicating uſeful information is the propoſed object of his work, he uniformly fixes his eye on it, and neglects no opportunity of laying every thing, which may promiſe utility, before his readers.

As Mr. Jackſon lays no claim to the graces of diction, and only

profeſſes to convey uſeful information, it would be unfair to try him by the laws for eſtimating the merit of a treatiſe, the profeſſed object of which might be, to pleaſe the imagination. He only profeſſes found knowledge of the ſubject; "We have," ſays he, "confined ourſelves to a ſimple narrative of facts, drawn from experience, during a reſidence on both ſhores of the Mediterranean, which we have told in ſo unvarniſhed, ſo ſimple, and ſo plain a manner, as we truſt will be intelligible to every reader. The following ſheets contain no more than a digeſted journal or diary of actual obſervations, on the trade, laws, manners, and cuſtoms of the people we have had occaſion to viſit."

The treatiſe before us, though poſſeſſing a ſmall ſhare of the graces of language, contains, what will be judged of far greater importance to the mercantile world, a thorough practical knowledge of the ſubject under conſideration; and though the public would give the preference to a work elegantly written, and well arranged, to one ill executed in thoſe reſpects, yet, there are caſes, and this is one of them, where accuracy, ſolidity, and extent of information will more than counterbalance every other conſideration.

As the author generally adopts the terms in common uſe in the Mediterranean, in this treatiſe, he very properly commences his work with tables of the monies, weights, and meaſures of the various ſtates, whoſe commerce he treats on, viz. Algiers, Tunis, Sardinia, Sicily, and Naples.

Our readers will be ſufficiently aware of the neceſſity for, and the uſefulneſs of tables of this ſort; indeed without them the work would have been in ſome meaſure unintelligible, as the author uſes them as often as the ſubject demands: they will alſo be of uſe even to the general reader, independently of the above conſideration. Theſe tables are followed by a gloſſary of a few provincial words in common uſe among the people of the ſhores of the Mediterranean.

The work contains five chapters; treating on the trade of the Mediterranean in general, and which are followed by remarks on the commerce of the principal ſtates and iſlands in particular, under ſeparate heads, of—The ſtates of Barbary, *(Algiers, Tunis,)* Sardidia, Sicily, *(Meſſina,)* Naples, and the Morea. The obſervations on the trade of the above places, included under certain heads, as exports and imports, and afterwards the principal articles are treated of ſeparately: we have little doubt but they will be thought ſatisfactory, as they ſeem to include every thing which can be deemed neceſſary as general rules: particular ones adapted to every varying caſe can only be learnt by experience on the ſpot.

The firſt chapter is, on "The advantages of embarking in the Mediterranean trade, clearly illuſtrated." The author's language is, in general, ſo conciſe, that we can ſcarcely do better than give the firſt paragraph, as an extract, which will not only open the ſubject, but give our readers a general idea of his ſtyle and manner.

"It may be conſidered a very unfortunate circumſtance to the united kingdom, that the coaſting trade of the Mediterranean ſhould have hitherto been ſo little known to Britiſh merchants in general: the principal object of this work is, to make it better underſtood, and to point out the eſſential benefits this country may derive therefrom; and we are perſuaded that a great many very reſpectable merchants will ſoon find it their intereſt to embark in this commerce, and even the ſhip-owners will be very materially intereſted in it; when other employment for their ſhipping does not immediately offer, they may at all ſeaſons ſend them up the Mediterranean for cargoes. They may certainly very reaſonably conclude, that it is always much better to have their ſhips employed to advantage, than keep them lying in harbour; and in the Mediterranean trade they have this peculiar advantage, that whenever a ſhip cannot procure a cargo on freight, the owners, by advancing a ſmall ſum, may always procure a full cargo

on the ſhip's account. It muſt then be very extraordinary, if the ſhip's freight, as well as the merchant's profit, does not turn to a good account. And we ſhall farther obſerve, that, in this caſe, where the ſhip and cargo are one property, and the whole ſhip's cargo does not amount to a large ſum, ſay, for example, no more than 500l. firſt coſt, it will be always better able to bear the charges of inſurance, and other expences, in proportion to cargoes of greater value. In moſt parts of the Mediterranean there are great quantities of bulky articles, which require much ſhipping to tranſport; and many of theſe bulky articles may be purchaſed for a moderate ſum; between two and three hundred tons of ſome goods will not coſt more than 500l. ſterling. This will, no doubt, appear to ſome merchants very extraordinary, and particularly to thoſe who are not well acquainted with the commerce of the Mediterranean. In this work we ſhall enumerate many articles, which, we are perſuaded, will be ſufficient to prove our aſſertion very ſatisfactorily to all who may conſider it their intereſt to enter into this trade. It very frequently happens that the maſter of a ſhip of between two and three hundred tons burthen, is often obliged to draw upon his owners for more than 500l. to pay his ſhip's expences, in lying only a few months in a foreign port; this is very often the caſe in the port of Leghorn."

After theſe preliminary conſiderations, the author proceeds to ſhew the immenſe quantity of ſhipping which might be employed in this trade; and, as a proof, he ſays, that the merchants of Marſeilles alone, loaded, in 1797, upwards of three hundred ſhips, of from eighty to three hundred tons burthen, in the ports of Tunis alone, which circumſtance he had from the mouth of the French conſul at Tunis, in 1797, and therefore there can be little doubt of the accuracy of the ſtatement. Theſe cargoes were obtained from the proceeds of French manufactured goods, and the author has no doubt, but ſimilar Engliſh ones would be much preferred by the natives. France owed theſe advantages to the number of her merchants, reſiding in foreign countries, to conduct their commercial concerns. The author conſiders the preſent a favourable opportunity for the Britiſh merchants to gain a firm footing on the ſhores of the Mediterranean, where their character is held in high eſtimation; and hopes that the Weſt India trade will no longer engroſs more than its due proportion of their attention; and, as a further inducement to the proſecution of it, adds, that Britiſh manufactures, and ſtaple commodities, will always find a ready market in thoſe countries.

After mentioning the peculiar attention which the French beſtow on their Mediterranean trade, the author propoſes a plan, which he thinks would effectually enſure a favourable reception of our merchandize, and ſhut out our competitors, viz. he would recommend that garriſons be eſtabliſhed in proper places, which would ſpeedily be enabled to ſupport themſelves, from the produce of a ſmall duty on tonnage, levied under the feweſt reſtrictions poſſible; the produce of which would not only be ſufficient for that purpoſe, but would afford a conſiderable increaſe to the revenue, and to the wealth of the merchant, by protecting and increaſing our trade: it could ſcarcely be conſidered oppreſſive, as the goods often yield a profit of thirty-five per cent.

The title of the ſecond chapter—"On the neceſſity of Merchants being well acquainted with the Political Economy of Foreign Nations," conveys an inadequate idea of its contents, as it ſcarcely leads us to look for the information which it really contains; we ſhall attempt, however, to ſupply the deficiency by our analyſis. Some would be wiſe people, having aſſerted, "that merchants have nothing to do with the politics of other nations, and that they have nothing to do but to mind their own affairs," the author endeavours to prove the fallacy of ſuch an idea, as an accurate knowledge of circumſtances of this nature is of infinite importance to the mer-

chant; and the contents of the remaining part of the chapter convince us of the correctneſs of his opinion; and the reaſons which he gives for it are worth ſerious attention, more particularly as we think they will carry conviction to the mind of the reader.

The firſt principle which he treats of, in favour of his aſſertions is, that money will always be of more value, and bear higher intereſt under unſtable governments, than under thoſe which are more "*ſteady, energetic*, and *powerful*." A circumſtance which every merchant ought to be, and undoubtedly with which numbers are already acquainted. Another is, that the merchant ſhould never place "too great or implicit confidence in the individuals of thoſe nations, or ſects of people, who have no flag, or whoſe flag is not reſpected by other nations," as he will always be liable to ſuffer from impoſition and chicanery, without ſcarcely any chance of redreſs. The remarks on both theſe ſubjects are intereſting. The author proceeds with enumerating the places where the Jews are more or leſs numerous or powerful. In Barbary, a bargain will always be broken by them on the leaſt proſpect of making a better, unleſs it be regiſtered in an European conſular office, and the parties bound under the ſevereſt penalties. They may, however, be traded with to advantage, when properly managed, as they will in general ſell, when certain of even a ſmall profit. Should they diſcover incompetency in the perſon they trade with, they will certainly impoſe on him, as there is no artifice, however mean, to which they will not ſtoop to give ſucceſs to their impoſitions.

The Greeks are equally faithleſs and deceitful. The Grand Signior, through jealouſy, always ſuffering them to be humbled, rather than redreſs their grievances: their flag, in conſequence, is unreſpected and unprotected, and they take the adminiſtration of the *lex talionis* into their own hands: hence, they will attack any ſhip of leſs force than their own, and if they ſucceed in capturing her, will murder her crew, and after plundering her of every thing valuable, conſign her to the bottom. In their private dealings they are as bad or worſe than the Jews in Barbary.

The Armenian merchants are a uſeful ſet of people, who carry on an extenſive trade to the eaſt in caravans, &c. They are, however, equally prone to cheating as the others; but as every one is compelled to have a paſſport, before he is allowed to travel, they are more readily detected and puniſhed after committing a fraud. The other inhabitants of the northern ſhores of the Mediterranean are equally to be guarded againſt: and in concluding his remarks on the bad faith of theſe people, the author ſays:—

"Only two or three centuries paſt, there was much noiſe in Europe about Spaniſh honour, Spaniſh valour, and Spaniſh integrity. Spain conquered the new world; was then a rich and powerful monarchy, and kept the other nations of Europe in awe. The Spaniards then boldly expoſed their perſons to danger: they would rather periſh, than be guilty of any mean action that might cauſe the leaſt diſagreeable reflection upon their high national character. This is univerſally allowed to have been the character of the Spaniards at that time. View them in their preſent ſtate, and they will be found almoſt the reverſe. From a ſucceſſion of weak princes, they are reduced to a moſt degraded ſtate, both by land and ſea; they will ſhrink from danger: they have now very little idea of a national character; and a Spaniard, without remorſe, will aſſaſſinate in the dark. In the time of their power and proſperity, the very idea of ſuch a horrid and deteſtable crime would have been ſufficient to have made a brave Spaniard ſhudder.

"There are other monarchies in Europe reduced to a ſimilar ſituation as Spain."

This chapter is cloſed with ſome intereſting remarks of a ſimilar nature, on the commercial integrity and importance of the *ci-devant* republics of Venice and Genoa. The whole chapter muſt be read in or-

der to a proper appreciation of the value and uſefulneſs of its contents.

The third chapter is "On the Advantages to be derived from any Poſſeſſions the Engliſh may have in the Mediterranean." The author, in this chapter, begins to unfold his plan for extending the trade of the Mediterranean. The navigation of the ſhores of this ſea is dangerous, and ſo little known, particularly in the Archipelago, where the coaſt is rocky, and in many places extremely ſhallow, ſo as to render it unſafe for veſſels of large burthen. To remedy this untoward circumſtance, and to accommodate the ſmall iſlands, &c. with what they can conveniently conſume, he propoſes the erecting of Malta into a grand *depôt* of both Engliſh and Mediterranean goods. He further recommends, that ſmall veſſels, of not more than 100 tons burthen, and well armed, ſhould be employed to collect and to diſtribute the various merchandizes on both ſides: the conſequences would be, leſs riſk to the large ſhips, and greater facility to the trade in every direction.

The commodiouſneſs of the port of Malta would contribute to the ſafety of the large veſſels, whilſt the coaſters would provide a ſufficiency of goods for home freights; hence, they would load and unload without damage or delay, and avoid the great loſs of time which they every where experience, on the preſent plan of conducting the trade. The author thinks, that without including the trade of the Black Sea, the trade of the Mediterranean alone would ſoon equal that of the Weſt Indies, and would prove far more beneficial: he has little doubt but it would employ two thouſand ſail of all deſcriptions. This chapter is cloſed with enumerating the various diſadvantages to which the Britiſh merchants are ſubject from the preſent mode of conducting the commerce of this part of the world.

The fourth chapter is, "On the Neceſſity of Increaſing the Number of Conſuls and Agents in various Parts of the Mediterranean; and the great advantages to be derived from it." The author begins this part of his ſubject with mentioning the attention beſtowed upon it by the French: we give his own words.

"In England this ſubject has never yet met with that attention that it certainly requires.

"In France, it has always been a principal object, both in time of the monarchy and the republic.—The late conduct of the French, in ſending an immenſe number of conſuls and commercial agents to all the ports and cities of any conſequence in the Morea, Levant, Egypt, &c. ought to have been ſufficient to have opened the eyes of the Engliſh. Perhaps ſome of them were ſent in a double capacity, both for political as well as commercial purpoſes. However that may be, they were treated by the French government in the moſt handſome manner, which would always operate in their favour, and make them appear in the eyes of the people where they were eſtabliſhed, as men of real conſequence. They had men of war to attend, and every reſpect outwardly ſhewn them, equal to ſo many ambaſſadors. The French would not have been at ſo much expence, had they not ſeen their intereſt in it, and the neceſſity of ſending out ſo many agents to recover that commerce they had loſt for a conſiderable time; and it would have been almoſt impoſſible for the French to have made any conſiderable progreſs, for a long time to come, in recovering this trade, particularly in thoſe countries where they can never have a regular correſpondence, without firſt eſtabliſhing conſuls and agents to prepare cargoes for their merchant ſhipping. When this commerce ſo imperiouſly demands the greateſt attention from the French government, it may not be unreaſonable for us to ſay, that it ought to be equally intereſting to the Engliſh. England has never yet taken ſuch deciſive meaſures in favour of commerce, but has generally left the merchants to purſue their own induſtry; and a great many of the conſuls that the Britiſh government are pleaſed to appoint, inſtead of their being merchants, are either naval or military officers, as a reward for their ſervices.—

Theſe gentlemen have always been accuſtomed to conſider the merchants as moving in a ſphere far beneath them; when this is unfortunately the caſe, we cannot reaſonably expect that commerce can be much benefitted by them. Where merchants are appointed conſuls, it will be found that the money paid for their ſalaries affords the greateſt intereſt to the nation."

The author proceeds with ſaying, that the duties of cuſtoms alone, on the cargoes of a few ſhips, would more than pay the ſalaries of all the conſuls we have in the Mediterranean; and were they three times the number, it would anſwer the purpoſe. He would recommend that they be Engliſh, as the foreign conſul will ſeldom ſupply a ſhip of war with neceſſaries, under a bonus of thirty-five per cent. to himſelf, excluſive of his uſual commiſſion.—The merchants are ſtill worſe off being ſubject to the ſame and ſome additional diſadvantages and impoſitions of a ſimilar nature. We give an example.

"It is a very common obſervation in Leghorn, that an Italian houſe will be enabled to ſupport itſelf in a genteel manner, keep a coach and equipage, and a handſome box at the theatre, out of the profits they make on the ſales of two Newfoundland ſhips' cargoes, yearly. All this cannot be done out of the uſual commiſſion, which is very moderate."

The author was for a while at a loſs how to account for theſe extraordinary impoſitions, till ſome of his own ſervants explained the ſecret. The prieſts have a feeling in every thing of the ſort.

The fifth chapter is—"On the Commerce of the Kingdoms of Algiers, Tunis, Sardinia, Naples, Sicily, the Morea, &c. &c. on the Diſpoſitions of the Inhabitants in the Modes of Traffic, and herein of the Imports and Exports, and of the Monies, Weights, and Meaſures of each reſpective Country." The author ſhall open this part of the ſubject himſelf.

"BARBARY.—The commerce carried on between England and the Barbary ſtates has hitherto been very inconſiderable; and none of the Barbary ſtates within the Streights have at preſent any direct trade with Great Britain: yet there can be no doubt, but a very advantageous commerce might be carried on by a direct communication between England and the ſtates of Barbary, within the Streights; many Engliſh manufactures, as well as ſtaples, are always in demand. The merchants at preſent in Barbary are accuſtomed to receive Britiſh goods through the medium of a third or fourth perſon, which muſt enhance the price conſiderably: there are alſo ſeveral ports in Barbary where return cargoes may always be procured that are properly adapted for the Engliſh market.

"In the following pages we have endeavoured to explain the nature of the Barbary commerce more particularly, and we have diveſted ourſelves of every thing that might appear myſterious, in writing every thing as we experienced it."

After giving this general idea of the importance of a direct trade with Barbary, he proceeds with an account of its advantages and diſadvantages; the produce; the prices; the beſt way of buying; the beſt and the propereſt ports for ſhipping different articles; an account of the money, weights, and meaſures in uſe; the cuſtoms and regulations for trading; the demand for, and value of each commodity, with directions for aſſorting cargoes, and the extent which the market will bear without being over-ſtocked in the various ſtates and iſlands in the Mediterranean; in ſhort, he preſents us with practical information of every kind.

The author firſt begins with Algiers. The Deys, at this place, "have never paid much attention to commerce, though poſſeſſing one of the fineſt ſtates in Barbary." They prefer piracy and plunder to the quiet cultivation of their country: ſhould they, however, turn their thoughts on commerce, the natural fertility of their ſoil promiſes every advantage. The principal articles of export are, wheat, barley, pulſe, olive-oil, wax, honey, bullocks'-hides, goat-ſkins, ſkins of wild beaſts, wool, live bullocks, live ſheep. Ex-

portation, except that of cattle from Oran to Gibraltar, which they are compelled to by treaty, is prohibited; there is alſo much difficulty in obtaining a *tiſkery* or licenſe from the Dey, when he does permit the exportation of corn. The principal mercantile houſe, which has almoſt every thing in its hands, is ſo decidedly in the French intereſt, as to ſuperadd another obſtacle to the Britiſh trading there.

The commerce carried on between *Tunis* and the northern ſtates of the Mediterranean is extenſive; which it chiefly owes to *Sidi Muſtapha*, a late prime miniſter, whoſe encouragement raiſed it from almoſt nothing to its preſent ſtate. The intercourſe of the people with other nations has contributed materially towards their civilization.

The commerce with other nations, and cultivation of the land neceſſarily induced by it, has materially tended to civilize the inhabitants; "and the duties on merchandize forms the greateſt part of the Beys revenues."

"The principal articles of export from the kingdom of Tunis are, wheat, barley, beans, olive-oil, hides, ſkins of wild beaſts, wool, wax, honey, madder roots, ivory, gold-duſt, ſcarlet caps, Jerbi ſhawls, Senna, ſoap, ſponge, cotton, Oſtrich feathers, Orchilla weed, live cattle." The author proceeds with giving a farther account of the commerce of the Tuniſians; the regulations reſpecting it; duties; the meaſures; the propereſt parts; the beſt markets; the places where moſt in demand, &c. Under the heads corn, olive-oil, ſponge, ſoap, Orchilla weed, wool, ivory, gold-duſt, Oſtrich feathers, hides, and wax, as being the more important articles of the trade. Under the head olive-oil, he mentions the effect which it has on the *coolies* or porters, who load and unload that article.

The author next proceeds with an account of the imports of the Tuniſians, but, as enumerating the articles ſeparately would treſpaſs too much on our limits, we barely give the names of the countries with which they trade: theſe are, Syria, the Morea, Tripoli, Trieſte, Spain, France, and Leghorn.—There is not, as yet, any direct trade between Tunis and England.—It is carried on by way of Leghorn at preſent, conſequently each country gets her goods at the ſecond or third hand. By eſtabliſhing a direct trade, however, the Engliſh would ſave the profit got by the merchants of Leghorn, and prevent the confiſcation of their goods, and being occaſionally ſhut out of the port by the French. We have next an aſſorted cargo of coarſe woollens for the market of Tunis; afterwards a number of directions to the merchant, for which we muſt refer the reader to the work; and the article is cloſed with directions for obtaining flour at a cheap rate, and curing beef moſt effectually, in ſpite of the heat of the climate. The whole article is well worth an attentive conſideration by thoſe intereſted in the Mediterranean trade.

The author enters equally at large into an account of the trade of Sardinia, under the uſual heads, exports and imports, advantages and diſadvantages, beſt markets, &c. The account we have given of the trade of Tunis will be an example of his obſervations on this. The natives of this iſland are ferocious and uncultivated; and the country people in general robbers, inſomuch that no ſtranger can travel with ſafety in the interior, unleſs well armed and attended with guides. The author cloſes his remarks with ſeveral uſeful tables; the firſt containing the prices of ſundry articles of Sardinian produce, the other three, the duties on exportations.

SICILY is admirably adapted and well ſituated for commerce, but the preſent weak and degraded ſtate of its government renders it one of the pooreſt and moſt wretched places in Europe. As a proof of this aſſertion, the author ſays, that it is no uncommon circumſtance "to ſee poor people die in the ſtreets for want of bread: it may be ſaid, that in the midſt of plenty the poor are ſtarving."—The princes and nobility, who, in general, poſſeſs large tracts of land, are often ſo poor, and ſo extravagant, as to diſpoſe of the produce of their eſtates a year before it can be delivered. The mer-

chants, who have cash on hand, frequently make advantageous bargains this way. The peasantry, however, are the greatest sufferers, and absolutely wretched. The author proceeds with the commerce of this island, in a similar and equally useful manner as in other instances. The heads are barilla, brimstone: he is here led into a digression on "The economy of loading a ship with heavy goods for a foreign voyage;" a title giving an inadequate representation of its contents; as it perhaps ought to have been "On the best way of dunnaging a ship in Sicily for a long voyage;" the author, however, gives some useful directions on the dunnaging of ships, particularly for a loading of brimstone. The remaining heads are exports and imports, custom-house, money of Sicily, almonds, manna, linseed-oil, dried figs, small nuts, lemons and oranges, liquorice paste, shumac, cantharides, small dried oranges, essence of lemon and bergamot, anchovies, coral, amber, goat and other skins, linen rags, soap, grain, Marsala wine, a wine resembling Madeira. The author's observations on these articles are followed with some account of, and directions for, mooring in the port of Messina.

The commerce of NAPLES next is treated on; the heads are, oil, wool, silk, argols, staves, wines, money, weights and measures; table of exchanges between Naples and the principal trading nations and cities in Europe. This table is followed by some "*pro forma* invoices from Naples to England;" interspersed with explanatory notices.

The observations on the commerce of the MOREA, are given in the author's usual manner. The heads are currants, young fustic, cotton. Under this head we have a useful disquisition on the best method of loading ships with this valuable article, olive-oil, valonia: this head gives a full mercantile account of this commodity, with the best method of stowing it; those which follow are given one after another, without any commercial remarks: they are dried fruits of various kinds, almonds, small nuts, gums of several kinds, galls, and a great variety of drugs.

The author concludes his work with a short general account of the commerce of the remainder of the more considerable states bordering on the Mediterranean; as Malaga, Alicant, Barcelona, &c. where much advantageous business may be done. The exports, however, of these places, more than counterbalance the imports, as the jealous Spanish government prevents the importation with a rigorous hand. The author strenuously recommends entering into the Mediterranean coasting trade with spirit; as our ships would always find employment, and England would be the gainer. Our connection with Leghorn is always to our disadvantage; and that with Civita Vecchia and Ancona not more favourable. Venice trades little; the trade with Trieste promises to become considerable. The Emperor of Germany having made it a free port; it will open a communication with the heart of Germany. Spars and hemp may be got at Fieume. The navigation of the gulf of Venice is extremely hazardous, from sudden gusts of wind in December and January.

We have been thus full in our account and analysis of this work, from a conviction of the utility which it promises to the mercantile world; and as it will always be our object, to point out solid and useful information, rather than find fault with the execution, where that is only a secondary consideration we have no hesitation in recommending it to the serious attention of the public; premising, however, that it must be diligently read in order to a proper appreciation of the value of its contents.

XV. *The* WORKS, *Theological and Miscellaneous, including some Pieces never before printed, of* FRANCIS BLACKBURNE, *M. A. late Rector of Richmond, and Archdeacon of Cleveland; with some Account of the Life and Writings of the Author, by himself; completed by his Son,* FRANCIS BLACKBURNE, *LL.B. And illustrated by an Appendix of*

Original Papers. In 7 Vols. pp. 2800. 2l. 12s. 6d.

FROM the memoir prefixed to theſe volumes, we find that Mr. Archdeacon Blackburne was born at Richmond, in Yorkſhire, June 9, 1705; at the age of ſeventeen he was admitted penſioner of Catherine-Hall, Cambridge: his attachment to the principles of civil and eccleſiaſtical liberty, rendered him obnoxious to his ſuperiors, and occaſioned the loſs of a fellowſhip for which he was a candidate. On this ſubject, in writing to a friend more than forty years after the event, he ſays, "A certain perſon (meaning himſelf) indeed owes his principles to a very accidental word of advice given him at ſeventeen, by a worthy old lay gentleman, who ſaid, 'young man, let the firſt book thou readeſt at Cambridge, be Locke on Government.' It was accordingly the firſt book that perſon bought, and he improved ſo much by it, that he loſt a fellowſhip by a ſpeech on the 5th of November; and having bread to eat, by the care and induſtry of a grand father, would be the moſt inexcuſable man upon earth, ſhould he ever regret that, and ſome other loſſes of the ſame ſort." In the year 1739, Mr. B. was ordained by Dr. Gooch, Biſhop of Norwich, at Ely chapel, Holborn, and in a ſhort time afterwards, he was inducted into the rectory of Richmond. Here he reſided conſtantly for forty years, during which he compoſed all the pieces contained in theſe volumes, beſides a multitude of ſmaller ones, ſome of which are collected in three volumes, 12mo. publiſhed in 1774, and entitled, "A Collection of Letters and Eſſays in favour of Public Liberty, &c." In the year 1744, he married Mrs. Elſworth, by whom he had ſeveral children; one of them the editor of this work. In the year 1784, Mr. B.'s eye-ſight entirely failed him for all the purpoſes of reading and writing; but his patience, reſignation, and chearfulneſs never forſook him; and on the 7th of Auguſt, 1787, he cloſed a long and highly important and uſeful ſcene of ſtudious, regular, and religious life, with the ſentiments of the amiable Eraſmus and the benevolent Jortin—"I have had enough of every thing in this world," without a groan; and as he ſat in his chair, he literally fell aſleep, in the humble hope of a bleſſed reſurrection to a better world. It was but a very few weeks before his death that he attended, as archdeacon, his thirty-eighth annual viſitation in Cleveland; for which purpoſe he had prepared a charge grounded on the words of Timothy—"*To preach the word—to be inſtant in ſeaſon, &c.*" This charge was delivered for him by his eldeſt ſon, and was heard with all the attention and reſpect which venerable years, and an uſeful and indefatigable life ſpent in the cauſe of virtue naturally inſpire.

We ſhall now give a brief account of the ſeveral important works contained in theſe volumes, and afterwards tranſcribe a paſſage from the biography in which the character of the archdeacon is illuſtrated.

The firſt volume contains, beſides the memoir, which, with the appendix, occupies 126 pages, ſome ſingle ſermons; a tranſlation of Eraſmus's preface to his paraphraſe on the Goſpel of St. Mathew; an inquiry into the uſe and importance of External Religion; and ſome controverſial papers relating to an act of parliament made in favour of the Jews, and which was afterwards repealed.

The ſecond volume contains—A Critical Commentary on Archbiſhop Secker's Letter to Horace Walpole, concerning Biſhops in America.—A Letter to Archbiſhop Herring.—An Apology for the Authors of the Free and Candid Diſquiſitions; and ſeveral Tracts relating to the Controverſy on the intermediate State.

In the third volume is—An Hiſtorical View of the Controverſy concerning an intermediate State; and the ſeparate Exiſtence of the Soul, between Death and the general Reſurrection.

The fourth volume contains—Various Diſcourſes relating to the Proteſtant Religion; and one, of great merit, on the Study of the Scriptures.

The fifth volume is entitled—— "The Confeſſional; or a full and free Inquiry into the Right, Utility, &c. of eſtabliſhed Confeſſions of Faith in Proteſtant Churches."

The ſixth and ſeventh volumes are chiefly devoted to a noble Defence of the Principles contained in the Confeſſional.

To the ſeventh volume is added —A general and full Index of all the Matters contained in the whole Work; and alſo a Table of all the Texts of Scripture explained or referred to in the courſe of the ſeven volumes.

It appears that Mr. Blackburne, who diſapproved of many things in the doctrine and diſcipline of the church of England, and whoſe income, as a beneficed clergyman, never exceeded the ſum of 150l. per annum, nevertheleſs refuſed, from principle, a ſituation among the diſſenters.

"Thus, then," ſays his biographer, "the offer of a ſtation of the firſt eminence and celebrity amongſt the non-conformiſts, with a revenue of at leaſt 400l. a year, was rejected by a man, who, at all times, held out the right hand of fellowſhip to a Proteſtant diſſenter, and who, in the ſituation propoſed, would certainly have been relieved from ſome grievances in the exerciſe of his chriſtian liberty, which the national eſtabliſhment impoſed upon him. And ſuch then was the pure and diſintereſted attachment of Archdeacon Blackburne, to the church of England; ſuch his affectionate and peculiar zeal for her beſt intereſts; and ſuch his claim to be ranked with the moſt faithful of her ſervants, if ſhe be deſirous to become more and more what ſhe affects to be thought, a goſpel inſtitution eſtabliſhed by law for the edification of a chriſtian people."

Mr. Blackburne's attachment to the principles of civil and religious liberty, as it commenced at a very early age, ſo it continued to the very lateſt period of his life, unabated on every honeſt occaſion, which he could embrace of ſerving that cauſe, either by his pen or by his perſonal influence. His own account in his memoirs of the riſe of that attachment we have been happy enough to illuſtrate by ſome curious anecdotes from his private letters, which certainly preſent, as it hath been well remarked, a ſtriking inſtance of the effect of ſingle circumſtances in ſometimes giving a direction to the whole of future life.

Some of Mr. Blackburne's more peculiar and characteriſtic opinions as a divine, we are inclined to believe may be traced to his early intimacy and correſpondence with his learned and excellent friend Edmund Law. With the tranſlater of Archbiſhop King's Eſſay on the Origin of Evil, he had learned to reject Dr. Clarke's Theory of the Eternal Relations and Fitneſſes of Things; and along with that his demonſtration *a priori* of the moral attributes of God. The inquiries ariſing from ſpeculations like theſe, Mr. Blackburne appears at one time to have purſued, with the moſt ſerious and diligent application of all the powers of his mind; and the conviction reſulting from the whole we find thus expreſſed in his own ſtrong language in a letter to a friend: "it is impoſſible there ſhould be any religion in the world without poſitive declarations of the divine will; and actual information, by prophecy or otherwiſe, concerning the divine nature and perfections."

The general doctrine of Dr. Law's celebrated appendix on the meaning of the term ſoul, and on the ſtate of death deſcribed in the ſcriptures, Mr. B. had certainly adopted ſeveral years before that appendix appeared. But it is equally certain that for many years after his firſt ſettlement at Richmond, he had held a regular correſpondence, as well as enjoyed frequent opportunities of converſation with Dr. Law, on that and other topics of religious concern.

The real importance of the controverſy on the ſleep of the ſoul, and the ſupport which the unſcriptural notions of its natural immortality and ſeparate exiſtence after death afford to deiſm and popery, Mr. Blackburne has very ably ſhewn in the prefatory diſcourſe to his hiſtorical view. That diſcourſe indeed is written in ſuch an animated ſtrain of argument, and ex-

hibits such a forceable plea for the freedom of religious inquiry, as beneficial to the interests of truth in other departments of literature and science, that whoever wishes to appreciate the use and importance of theological controversy in general, as well as of the particular controversy occasioned by Dr. Law's appendix, will find himself amply rewarded for the time and attention bestowed on the perusal of that very instructive and entertaining essay.

Without ever taking an active part in the disputes which in his time agitated, and are still agitating the church of England, on the article of predestination, it is certain that Mr. B. was, in the general sentiments of his creed, what he more than once declared himself to be, a moderate Calvanist; and his writings place it beyond a doubt, that he believed himself so much more a Protestant for being so. His Calvinism, however, was of the largest and most liberal cast. This will be easily understood from what he thought of the great work of David Hartley on Man—"a book," writes Mr. B. to a friend, in 1750, "to which, if I am not exceedingly mistaken, christianity is or will be more beholden, than to all the books besides of the two last centuries. But he has joined necessity and religion together.—What of that? Ask the church of England in her articles."

While engaged in the controversial field, and maintaining what he believed to be the cause of truth and liberty, Mr. Blackburne, like his admired Luther, pursued his adversary often with vehemence, and sometimes with asperity of attack: and when either rank or eminence in the object of his animadversions was likely to lend a sanction to prejudice and superstition, or to give an imposing air to the encroachments of human authority in matters of religion, no writer ever more intrepidly encountered odium, by exposing error and bigotry if it were even found, where many good and gentle natures will hardly allow it to be looked for, under the lawn and the mitre. Yet, doubtless, in the execution of so critical an office, the most acute and honest judgment might at times fail in discernment, or carry severity too far. To say, therefore, that Mr. Blackburne never passed an unjust censure, or harboured an unworthy dislike as a polemic, would be to suppose that he was perfect in the most difficult of all tasks—the task of inquiring into the justness of argument, the integrity of motives, and the rectitude of conduct of other men like himself.

Of all this, in his last years, especially when he had retired from the business of controversy, and looked back on the scene which he had quitted for ever, Mr. Blackburne was duly sensible; and one day, a few weeks before his death, conversing with a lady then resident at Richmond, one of the most amiable and excellent of her sex, he acknowledged, with great earnestness, that some things which he had written and published in the course of his life, he was afraid might have been too warmly or too hastily advanced. Yet no scholar perhaps was ever more industrious and indefatigable in the investigation both of facts and of arguments, or less precipitate in delivering his researches to the public than Archdeacon Blackburne.

Nor did mere difference of opinion even on points of the highest political and religious consequence, or on speculative topics, where years of study had endeared conviction to him, operate as a bar to his approbation of the merits of his opponent; and he readily acknowledged, and admired literary talent and scriptural knowledge, or clear and able enforcements of the truths and obligations of religion, as well as personal virtue and eminent piety, in those, from whom otherwise he differed widely, and whom, with no little eagerness, he had sometimes opposed.

Mr. Blackburne's cordial and eloquent compliment to the memory of Jortin, to whom, besides some specific disagreements, he was nearly as dissimilar in general characters as Luther to Erasmus, has been more than once repeated. His amanuensis testifies the genuine satisfaction which the reading of Dr. Johnson's Prayers and Meditations appeared to afford his venerable friend, and he well

remembers with what delight Mr. Blackburne liſtened to the ſermons of Biſhop Sherlock, which he had doubtleſs often himſelf peruſed before; and with what frankneſs of heart he wiſhed that it had been in his power to be equally uſeful as a preacher of the doctrines of chriſtianity.

Amidſt the calls of his public ſtation, and the labours of private ſtudy, during the moſt active ſtages of his life, Mr. Blackburne had been always conſtant in the regular performance of family devotion, and of ſolitary prayer. The contemplation too of ſome paſſage in the Old or New Teſtament, with the comments of the beſt early or later critics, was not forgotten in the habitual arrangement of his forenoon. In his latter days, theſe exerciſes and meditations, and a courſe of reading congenial to them, ſuited particularly well with the ſober and ſerious caſt of a mind like his, and with afflictions faſt weaning to a better world.—Towards the cloſe of his life, retaining ſtrong faculties of memory and intellect, his powers of cheerful and inſtructive converſation were little diminiſhed by age; or what they had loſt, if any thing they had loſt, in vigor, was abundantly compenſated in that ſoft mellowneſs of temper, which, like the mild ſetting ſun of an autumnal evening, gilds the declining day of a wiſe and virtuous old man.

Such was Francis Blackburne; a believer of chriſtianity, from the deepeſt conviction of its truth; a Proteſtant on the genuine principles of the reformation from popery; a ſtrenuous adverſary of ſuperſtition and intolerance, and of every corruption of the ſimplicity or the ſpirit of the goſpel; a zealous promoter of civil liberty; a cloſe and perſpicuous reaſoner; a keen and energetic writer; an attentive, benevolent, and venerable archdeacon; an elegant and perſuaſive preacher; a faithful paſtor, and exemplary guide; of unblemiſhed purity of life; of ſimple dignity of manners; a ſincere and cordial friend; an affectionate huſband, and an indulgent father; in ſhort, a juſt, humane, pious, temperate, and independent man.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Monthly Epitome.

SIR, Feb. 18, 1805.

AT Mr. Landſeer's ſecond lecture on engraving, at the Royal Inſtitution, among ſome ſcarce and curious engravings which he exhibited, was a book containing copies from the old maſters, and ſome impreſſions from their works of engravings on wood, in different varieties of ſtyle. On inquiry, I found that the book was the property of Mr. Savage, clerk to the Inſtitution; and that it was a private collection of Mr. Skippe's, who had executed part of the copies himſelf. As it is a collection which appears to be very little known, I ſhould be glad to be informed, through your excellent Magazine, whether it is eaſily to be met with, and whether there have been any works executed of late in the manner of the copies, which appear to have been printed with different blocks, each block being uſed for a different tint.

Many of the engravings are executed ſo as to produce the effect of drawings, the ground being printed to imitate a waſh; and different blocks uſed for the lights and ſhades; ſome of them convey the effect of bronze, others that of ſtone; among them are ſeveral large ſpecimens of engravings on wood with croſs hatches; an art which is not now practiſed, and can only be executed with great difficulty and labour by the preſent mode of engraving on wood.

The collection is compoſed of ſpecimens engraved by Zanetti, in 1741; by Andrew Andreani, of Mantua, in 1605, 1608, and 1609, by Niccolo Boldvini, of Venice, in 1566; and by Albert Durer; from deſigns of Raphael, Rubens, Titian, Michael Angelo, &c. &c.

I am, yours, &c. W.

ADVERSARIA:

Bibliographical, Philoſophical, Literary, and Miſcellaneous.

Agriculture.—Sir Joſeph Banks has printed, for private uſe, a pamphlet, containing a ſhort account of the Cauſe of the Diſeaſe in Corn, called by farmers the blight, the mildew, and the ruſt; with two engravings of this deſtructive plant, from the drawings of Mr. Bauer, botanical painter to his majeſty. We propoſe to give an analyſis of this valuable pamphlet in our next number.

At the annual meeting of the members of the Bath and Weſt of England Agricultural Society, held at Hetling-houſe, Bath, many illuſtrious ſtrangers were preſent; among whom a Chief of the Mohawk Indians, named Tetoninhokahwen, but here called Capt. Norton, was particularly diſtinguiſhed. He was introduced by R. Barclay, Eſq. who ſtated, that the chief motive of the viſit of this patriotic Chief to England was, to improve himſelf in the ſcience of agriculture, for the benefit of his native country. He was inſtantly elected an honorary member, and returned thanks for the honour in a neat ſpeech; at the concluſion of which he intimated, that though he ſhould be unable to make a ſuitable return for the advantages he was likely to derive from his reſidence here, he truſted he ſhould be able to give ſome gratification to the ſociety, by tranſmitting ſpecimens of ſuch plants, ſeeds, or animals, as were conſidered valuable. Sir John Coxe Hippiſley, Bart. was elected a Vice-Preſident, in the room of Sir John Durbin, reſigned.

There was the uſual ſhew of curious ſtock, both fat and lean.—John Billingſley, Eſq. obtained a premium for the greateſt quantity of work by neat cattle during eleven months of the preſent year.—The gold medal was awarded to Miſs Fanſhaw, for the beſt deſign for the Bedfordean Die; and alſo to Arthur Young, Eſq. for the beſt eſſay on the nature, property, &c. of manures. A bounty of five guineas was voted to a *female* friendly ſociety, eſtabliſhed with ſingular ſucceſs at Horningſham, in the county of Somerſet.

Dr. Parry read to the ſociety a memoir, containing the reſult of thirteen years experience, on his flock of ſheep, which are a mixed breed between the Merino and Ryeland; and exhibited various ſpecimens of wool, cloth, &c.—The particular thanks of the ſociety were voted to Dr. P. for his unremitting and ſucceſsful exertions in promoting an object ſo important to the intereſts of Great Britain.

Mr. Forſter, of Royſton, has lately made a ſucceſsful experiment on feeding ſheep, during the winter months, on potatoes: during the laſt winter, in conſequence of the failure of his turnips, he gave potatoes to his ſheep, and with them freſh ſtraw, night and morning; and at the end of March his flock was allowed to be in better condition than any other in his neighbourhood.

Astronomy.—On Thurſday, the 13th, and Saturday, the 15th of December, there was a cluſter of ſpots on the ſun, extending not leſs than one ſeventh of his diameter, or near 14,000 miles. It was irregularly triangular, only the eaſtern ſpot was large, and its obliquity from the equator of the ſun towards the north pole, was more conſiderable than uſual.

Botany.—The executors of the late Dr. Sibthorp, Regius Profeſſor of Botany in the Univerſity of Oxford, have circulated propoſals for publiſhing the *Flora Græca* of that eminent botaniſt. It will be remembered that Dr. S. made two voyages to Greece and the adjacent countries, for the purpoſe of inveſtigating the natural hiſtory, the agriculture, and medicine of thoſe rich and claſſic regions; and that in conſequence of the fatigues he underwent in his ſecond voyage, he, unfortunately for botanic ſcience, fell a victim to his ardent deſire of enlarging the boundaries of knowledge in his favourite ſtudy. Anxious to the laſt for the completion of his great object, and that the literary world

might not be deprived of the fruits of his labours, he bequeathed to the Univerſity of Oxford, 300l. per annum in landed property, in truſt, for the purpoſe of defraying the expences which might attend the publication of the *Flora Græca*. The executors of Dr. Sibthorp have appointed Dr. Smith, preſident of the Linnæan Society, to digeſt and arrange the materials furniſhed by Dr. Sibthorp's manuſcript journals, his notes, his dried plants, and the drawings executed under his immediate inſpection by Mr. F. Bauer, and alſo to undertake the ſyſtematic and deſcriptive parts of the work. The *Flora Græca* will extend to ten volumes, in large folio, each to contain one hundred plates, coloured in imitation of drawings, and accompanied by full ſcientific deſcriptions in Latin, with ſynonyms. Each volume will be divided into two *faſciculi*, to be publiſhed with as much expedition as juſtice to the work will admit. It is propoſed that the price of the firſt *faſciculus* ſhall be twelve guineas; but it is hoped, that from the operation of the fund above mentioned, that the price of the following *faſciculi* will be lower. It is alſo intended to publiſh a *Prodromus Floræ Græcæ*, in two volumes octavo, without plates, being a ſyſtematic ſynopſis of this great and elaborate work.

Mr. Willdenow, Profeſſor of Botany at Berlin, has, for the laſt three years, employed himſelf in making ſeveral alterations and arrangements in the botanic garden belonging to the King of Pruſſia. Seven green-houſes have already been erected, and they are now full of plants; one of them is remarkable for its peculiar conſtruction, for it may be removed in ſummer. The plants of the temperate regions of Aſia, thoſe of Carolina and Florida, of the north of Africa, and of the ſouth of Europe, are cultivated in the ground without pots. The whole garden has been laid out after the Engliſh taſte. The number of ſpecies cultivated exceeds 5000, including a great number of vegetable productions extremely rare.

CHEMISTRY.—The Rev. James Hall, M. A. has in the preſs, ſome important Experiments and Diſcoveries in Ice, Heat, and Cold; the reſult of which will probably prove of great advantage to the navy, and will alſo tend to ſolve ſome difficulties in natural hiſtory and philoſophy.

A new method has lately been diſcovered of dying a better Roſe Colour; for which purpoſe wild plums, and muriatic or ſulphuric acids, are employed.

M. Eckberg has recently diſcovered Titanite or Karinbricka in Weſtmannland, imbedded in quartz and mica, and mixed with black Tourmalin. He has alſo announced a curious property of the new earth, called Yttria. When muriate of Yttria is heated to redneſs, it gives out oxymuriatic acid, nearly in the ſame proportion as when muriatic acid is treated in the ſame way with the oxide of the new metal called cerium. This circumſtance makes it probable that Yttria will prove to be a metallic oxide.

COMMERCE.—Mr. Macpherſon, who has long been employed on a work on Commerce, which will extend to four volumes in quarto, intends to publiſh it early in the ſpring. The title is, "Annals of Commerce, Manufactures, Fiſheries, and Navigation; with brief Notices of the Arts and Sciences connected with them; containing the Tranſactions of the Britiſh Empire and other Countries, from the earlieſt Accounts to the Meeting of the Union Parliament in 1801; with an Appendix, containing a Commercial Gazetteer of the United Kingdom," &c.

DRAMA.—We are happy to obſerve that a complete Engliſh Drama, of which a proſpectus is now in circulation, will ſoon make its appearance. It is the only one which has hitherto been undertaken on any ſyſtematic plan.—It includes the plays of Shakeſpeare, the excluſion of which from a comprehenſive Britiſh theatre we could never underſtand. This work will alſo comprize a hiſtory of the drama and ſtage, and alſo the ſeries of all the dramatic poets. The work is to be embelliſhed with portraits of each author, finely engraved, and alſo with illuſtrative engravings from pictures painted by the beſt Engliſh artiſts.

It will be publiſhed in volumes, ſix of which it is intended ſhall appear in each year.

Mr. E. H. Seymour has circulated propoſals for publiſhing Remarks on the Plays of Shakeſpeare; in which it is intended to exhibit various inſtances of readings from the early quartos, which appear preferable to thoſe adopted by the laſt editor; to introduce order inſtead of derangement, by diſmiſſing from the text all ſuch words as have intruded to diſturb the metre, without any benefit to the ſenſe; as well as to reſtore others which have been omitted to the detriment of both; to note the grammatical anomalies of every kind; and to attempt an expoſition of paſſages occult or dubious, many of which have been left wholly unnoticed, or miſinterpreted.—This work will be compriſed in two octavo volumes, correſponding in ſize with the editions of Johnſon and Stevens, by Reed; and enriched with obſervations, ſelected from the MSS. of the late Lord Chedworth.

HISTORY.—Mr. Wm. Belſham has completed his Hiſtory of Great Britain, from the revolution, 1688, to the concluſion of the treaty of Amiens, in 1802; and the eleventh and twelfth, or concluding volumes, have juſt made their appearance. This publication conſtitutes the only hiſtory of Great Britain during the ſame important period, which is the work of a ſingle writer; and for thoſe whoſe political ſentiments agree with Mr. Belſham, will form a ſuitable continuation of Hume.

LEARNING AND LEARNED SOCIETIES.—The Batavian Society of Sciences, at Haerlem, has offered a gold medal of thirty ducats for the beſt ſolution of each of the following queſtions:—What are the general principles of our knowledge of the nature of fire, relative to the production, propagation, and concentration of heat; and an acquaintance with which is neceſſary for aſcertaining the moſt advantageous mode of employing it, and of conſtructing, according to theſe principles, fire-places calculated to ſave fuel?—What progreſs has the new ſyſtem of chemiſtry made in the ſcience of the human body? Has this progreſs contributed to make us better acquainted with the cauſes of diſeaſes? Has the new ſyſtem of chemiſtry extended our knowledge of the effects of medicines, both ancient and modern? And what advantages may be derived from that knowledge in the treatment of diſeaſes? What are the cauſes of the putrefaction which takes place in ſtagnant waters, and by what means may water be preſerved from putrefaction?"

The ſubject of the prize of eloquence, propoſed by the National Inſtitute of France, for the enſuing year, is—"The Literary State of France in the fourteenth Century."

The Society of Rural Economy, at Copenhagen, has propoſed three prizes for the beſt Memoir on the Cultivation of Foreſt Trees, conſidered ſo far as they relate to ſhip-building.

The Teylerian Society has propoſed, as the ſubject of a prize eſſay, the following queſtion:—What Advantages has Chriſtianity derived from Miſſions during the laſt two Centuries; and what Succeſs may be expected from the Miſſionary Societies at preſent exiſting?

The King of Pruſſia diſcovers conſiderable zeal for the improvement of the Univerſities in his dominions. M. Maſſou, one of his miniſters, is ſedulouſly employed in forming and executing plans for this purpoſe. The king has lately tranſmitted to the different univerſities a circular letter, the purport of which is, to requeſt them to forward his views for their improvement.

The anniverſary meeting of the Society of Schoolmaſters, was lately held at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, the Rev. Dr. Vincent, in the chair. This benevolent inſtitution, which has for its object the ſupport, in caſe of indigence, of that moſt valuable body of gentlemen, who have the care and inſtruction of the youth of this kingdom, has already acquired a permanent eſtabliſhment. Many of the moſt exalted characters of the kingdom have manifeſted their patriotiſm in becoming contributors to its fund. All the principal

maſters of our public ſchools, as well as thoſe who, after long and meritorious ſervices, have been advanced to high ſtations in the church, or who have retired to enjoy the fruits of their labour, countenance the inſtitution, and honour it with their preſence and ſupport. The day was ſpent with the higheſt conviviality. The elegant ſong of Mr. Spencer—"*The Three Bleſſings of this World, Wife, Children, and Friends*," was ſung by Mr. Dignum to a few ſimple notes, with every charm of intonation, truth, and feeling. Mr. Kelly, the treaſurer's fine ſong of the *Vacation*, was alſo ſung with great effect. Dr. Vincent having retired, amidſt the plaudits of the company, Dr. C. Burney ſupplied his place in the chair.

The Royal Society have adjudged Count Rumford's medal, for diſcoveries regarding heat, to Mr. John Leſlie, of Largo, Fifeſhire, in conſequence of his late publication of an Experimental Inquiry into the Nature and Propagation of heat.

LITERATURE.—The firſt part of a new edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, is juſt publiſhed. The plan of this celebrated work is ſo well known and approved, that any commendation at the preſent time, would be perfectly unneceſſary. Numerous alterations and additions, according to the advanced ſtate of ſcience, and its progreſſive improvement, will render the preſent edition ſuperior to any of the preceding. The editors propoſe to re-write the whole of the articles that relate to ſcience, in order that an account of the lateſt diſcoveries may be incorporated in the proper treatiſes on each branch of knowledge. It is alſo intended that the miſcellaneous part ſhall be greatly improved and enlarged; and that the whole work, when completed, ſhall exhibit the lateſt and moſt extenſive and finiſhed view of human knowledge that has ever been laid before the public. It will be remembered that the firſt edition of this work was publiſhed at Edinburgh, in three volumes quarto, with 160 plates, in 1771; the ſecond was in ten volumes, quarto, with 200 plates, in 1778; and the third edition, the number of which was 13,000, in eighteen volumes, quarto, with 540 plates, in 1797; and a ſupplement, by Dr. Gleig, in two thick volumes, quarto, with 50 plates, the ſecond edition of which was publiſhed in 1803.

The eighth part of Dr. Rees's Cyclopædia, has juſt made its appearance.

A new volume of the Tranſactions of the Society of Arts, &c. will make its appearance in a few days.

The third volume of the Annual Review, and Hiſtory of Literature, for the year 1804, is nearly completed, and will be publiſhed early in March.

Mr. P. Latham has juſt circulated propoſals for publiſhing, in two volumes, octavo, a Compendium of the Hiſtory, Laws, Cuſtoms, and Privileges of the City of London.

Mr. G. T. Morley has juſt completed a novel, under the title of Deeds of Darkneſs; or, the Unnatural Uncle: a tale of the ſixteenth century; including intereſting memoirs, founded on facts.

Mr. William Henry Ireland, whoſe ingenious fabrication of the Shakeſpeare manuſcripts excited a few years ago ſuch conſiderable attention, will ſhortly publiſh a Confeſſion of all the Circumſtances which attended that Literary Forgery, including a great number of particulars relative to the various Literary Characters who took part *pro* or *con* in the controverſy which was induced by that publication.

Mr. Carr, author of the Stranger in France, has in the preſs, in one volume, quarto, a Northern Summer; or Travels round the Baltic, through Denmark, Sweden, Ruſſia, Part of Poland, and Pruſſia, in 1804; which will be embelliſhed with ſeveral engravings.

MANUFACTURES.—Several important improvements have recently been made in Fire-arms, particularly in locks, which give a quicker action, more decilion, perfect ſecurity againſt damp, &c. and ſimplifying them to ſuch a degree, that by the removal of the centre-pin, which forms the axle through the bridle and tumbler, the whole may be taken to pieces, and replaced in a few ſeconds. A

new nipper to cut the cartridge for priming, is attached by a joint to the lock or gun There is likewiſe a new mode of priming from the inſide of the barrel, when charged, th ough the touch-hole—an improved ſight at the breech—a new piſtol to prime and load without wadding; for firing off cannon, with improved ramrods, &c.

A machine has been conſtructed for expeditiouſly ſtripping and plucking the Fur, &c. from Skins, an operation hitherto performed by manual labour.

Two inventions, each promiſing conſiderable public benefit, have been announced, of Machinery for Spinning, Doubling, &c. threads of various materials.

Our Cotton Manufactories are ſtill ſo widely increaſing, that two great works of this kind are now erecting on the river Dee, at Llangollen, in North Wales

Baron Von Doornik has diſcovered a compoſition of abſorbent or detergent earth, with other ingredients, more effectual in waſhing, ſcouring, &c. than ſoap, or any other application hitherto uſed.

M. Hermbſtaedt, of Berlin, has diſcovered that the *Tormentilla erecta*, a plant that grows nearly every where, and the *Polygonum biſtorta*, furniſh the principle of Tanning in a ſuperior degree. It is ſtated that a pound and a half of Tormentilla, or double that quantity of the other, will tan as much ſkin as ſeven pounds of oak bark.

Medicine.—Doctor Richard Reece has juſt publiſhed a ſecond edition of his "Explicit Inſtructions for the Medical and Dietetic Management of the different Species of Pulmonary Conſumptions that occur in this country; with many important Additions, illuſtrated with Caſes."

The ſame gentleman has alſo recently publiſhed a new edition, much improved, of his Domeſtic Medical Guide.

Meteorology.—A correct account of Dry Days in 1804:—

January	6	July	10
February	7	Auguſt	7
March	11	September	19
April	4	October	7
May	14	November	10
June	20	December	9

Total number of dry days 124.—N. B. In 1803—183 dry days.

Natural History.—The ſecond part of Dr. Ruſſell's ſplendid work on Indian Serpents, with coloured plates, which is publiſhed under the patronage of the East-India Company, has juſt made its appearance.

Mr. R. A. Riddel is preparing for publication, a picturesque View of the principal Mountains in the World, with their actual heights, from the beſt authorities; and a ſcale of comparative altitudes, applicable to the picture, deſigned and executed by himſelf. It is intended to be accompanied by an hiſtorical and picturesque account of mountains, their mineral and other productions, by Mr. Joſeph Wilſon of Lincoln's Inn. The ſize of the engravings will be four feet by three, and the ſcale will be 35 inches to 22,000 feet.

Travels.—Mr. M'Callum has circulated propoſals for publiſhing by ſubſcription, Travels in the Iſland of Trinidad; in a ſeries of letters addreſſed to a member of the parliament of Great Britain. This work will contain a view of the local and political importance of that Iſland to Great Britain; and the ſuperior advantages which would reſult from a population of emigrant Scotch Highlanders: together with other circumſtances of a ſimilar nature.

A new edition of Bruce's Travels to diſcover the Source of the Nile, in ſeven volumes octavo, is in the preſs, and will appear in a ſhort time.

Humboldt, the traveller, is in Paris, engaged in ſcientific reſearches. He is ſoon to proceed to Italy, where he will undertake a ſeries of experiments on the chemical analyſis of air, the electricity of volcanoes, and the intenſity of the magnetic fluid. Theſe experiments are neceſſary, in order to form a compariſon with thoſe which he made on the Cordillera of the Andes, and which are about to be publiſhed. He is to be accompanied in his journey to Italy by M. G. Luſſac, known for his philoſophic labours and his aëroſtatic aſcenſions; one of which he lately made, in concert with M. Biot, of the National Inſtitute.—

M. Boupland, who travelled in the Andes with M. Humboldt, remains this winter at Paris, to prepare for the preſs a work on the Equinoctial Plants.

Mungo Park, the celebrated African Traveller, is about to undertake another journey of Diſcovery to that Quarter of the Globe, of which ſo little is known. His courſe we underſtand is to be toward the Southern part of that continent. He ſailed from Portſmouth a few days ago in the Eugenie ſloop, Captain Webb.

NEWSPAPERS.—Mr. J. Bell, the Projector of ſeveral popular Newſpapers, has publiſhed 3 Numbers of a paper, which he intends to continue once a Fortnight, devoted ſolely to Advertiſements, that promiſes to be of great utility to the Public, as affording the means of bringing into one focus the diverſified Information of Advertiſers which is now ſcattered through ſuch a number of daily and weekly papers.

ORNITHOLOGY.—A beautiful variety of the ſnipe ſpecies was ſhot a few weeks ago, near Syſton Park, Lincolnſhire, by W. Thorold, Eſq. The body was of a clear white; the head, neck, and throat, cloſely marked with pale aſh-coloured and yellow ſpots; the breaſt a pure white; the back and wings ſtrongly barred with a bright buff colour; the tail white; the extremities of the tail feathers a bright buff. When firſt ſhot, the legs and bill were a lively pink; but have ſince faded to a pale ſalmon colour. The bird had been ſeen to frequent the ſame place where it was ſhot three winters paſt. It is preſerved at Syſton park.

PATENTS.—Mr. Slater, of Huddersfield has obtained a patent for an invention, by which chains are ſubſtituted in lieu of ropes in the fabrication of ſhrouds, ſtays, and other articles for the rigging of ſhips; the chains are made of iron or copper, the links of a ſhort oval form, and very nearly touching in the centre of the one in which they are inſerted. It is contended that rigging of this deſcription would laſt longer, be no heavier, leſs liable to be damaged in action, and, if broken, more eaſily replaced; perhaps it would alſo render a ſhip more ſecure from lightning, and be more eaſily repaired than rigging made of hemp.

A patent has been obtained by an engineer of Queen's county, Ireland, for an apparatus for boring, the peculiar excellence of which is, that it will bring up the different ſtrata as they occur, from any depth, in entire cylinders, of from one to 20 inches in length, and from two to 20 inches in diameter. It is likewiſe applicable to the ſinking of wells, giving vent to the ſubterraneous water in bogs, &c.

POLITICS.—A pamphlet on the Civil Condition and Relations of the Roman Catholic Clergy, Religion and People of Ireland, from the pen of Mr. M'Kenna, will appear in a few days.

USEFUL ARTS.—Mr. Stevens of Garlick-hill, London, has invented an inſtrument for equalizing the preſſure and efflux of non-elaſtic fluids.

VACCINATION.—By the exertions of a reſpectable medical character of Bath, the benefits of Vaccine inſtitution are now likely to be experienced in that city. A numerous meeting of gentlemen, under the patronage of the Duke of York, and the auſpices of Earl Paulett, and Lord Sommerville, formed themſelves into a *Royal Somerſet Jennerian Inſtitution*, whoſe purpoſe and objects are to be ſimilar to thoſe of the London inſtitution. The chair, on this occaſion, was filled by B. Hobhouſe, Eſq. M. P. whoſe ability, and conduct of the proceedings of the meeting, fully juſtified the unanimous vote that placed him in that conſpicuous and reſpectable ſituation. He addreſſed the gentlemen preſent in the moſt intereſting and forcible language, equally honourable to his talents as an orator, and his feelings as a man.

It is not a little remarkable that the Vaccine Inoculation has

hitherto had but ſmall encouragement in Ireland, even amongſt thoſe who might be ſuppoſed the moſt able to eſtimate its value and utility. The great bulk of the people in that country, having, comparatively ſpeaking, ſcarce heard of it; which circumſtance may, perhaps, in ſome degree, be attributed to the diſturbed ſtate of the public mind.

By the laſt Dublin papers we find, however, that the Lord Lieutenant has put himſelf at the head of an inſtitution for the purpoſe of encouraging the adoption of this ſafe and eaſy mode of preventing the violence of that dreadful ravager, the ſmall pox. A number of reſpectable gentlemen have been appointed to carry the views of this laudable inſtitution into effect in Dublin, which we hope will have a beneficial influence on the country in general.

Many gentlemen to whom it was not convenient to attend the weekly board at the Vaccine inſtitution, have agreed to have a meeting at the Britiſh coffee-houſe Cockſpur-ſtreet, once in ſix months, to read the new obſervations and communications entered in the minute book; to receive remarks upon theſe minutes, to hear freſh occurrences concerning Vaccination, and to notice the new publications on that ſubject. One meeting was held on Monday, Dec. 17, 1804.

Vaccination gains ground rapidly in France, the biſhops, the prefects, and all the public functionaries are extremely active in carrying the decree of the miniſter of the interior into effect, inſomuch that, 67,676 individuals have been ſucceſsfully vaccinated within the period of ſix months, and the variolous infection has conſiderably declined.

IRELAND.—A Statiſtical and Hiſtorical Inquiry into the Population of Ireland, will ſhortly make its appearance. The object of this publication will be to ſhew how eſſential the internal proſperity and tranquillity of that Iſland are to the general intereſt of the United Kingdoms.

MISCELLANEOUS.—We are happy to obſerve that Sir John Sinclair, whoſe ſtatiſtical account of Scotland has not only conferred honour on its Projector, but has proved of infinite benefit to that country, has undertaken to preſent the public with an account of the Facts which have been hitherto collected relative to the means of preſerving health and prolonging life. Theſe two Diviſions of Medical Art, or rather of the ſubject of Life and health, are ſpoken of by Lord Bacon as its nobleſt branches; and yet hitherto they have never been regularly inveſtigated. The only way in which this can be done is by collecting a ſufficient number of well authenticated Facts, in order that the concluſions to be drawn from reaſoning on this analogy may be of ſo much weight as to be conſidered as undeviating laws, and by that means be able to ſhew that nature recogniſes them as the cauſes by which ſhe produces theſe effects. Sir John Sinclair, propoſes to accompliſh this deſirable object, and in the Proſpectus of the intended work which he has juſt circulated, divides his plan into the following parts. 1. The circumſtances which neceſſarily tend to promote health and longevity, independently of individual attention. 2. The rules, which if obſerved by an individual have a tendency to preſerve health and exiſtence, even where theſe independent circumſtances are wanting. 3. The regulations by which the general health and ſafety of a community are protected from the various injuries to which they are likely to be expoſed.

It is Sir John's intention to conſolidate into one volume, octavo, all the knowledge which he conſiders to be eſſentially neceſſary for the attainment of health and longevity. But for thoſe who deſire to inveſtigate the ſubject further, he propoſes to publiſh, in four additional volumes, octavo, an Account of the Writings and Opinions of all the ancient, foreign, and Britiſh Authors, who have diſcuſſed the ſubjects in queſtion.

Kotzebue, who was on his travels in Italy has lately been arreſted by order of a Great Power. There

is no doubt that this arreſt has has taken place in conſequence of the offence which Kotzebue, has given, by the Freedom of his remarks upon the preſent ſtate of France, in the late publication of his journey to Paris.

An Eſſay on the Spirit and influence of the Reformation of Luther. Tranſlated from the French of C. Villers, by Mr. Lambert, is in the preſs, and will immediately appear.

This work obtained the Prize propoſed by the National Inſtitute of France on the following Queſtion:—"What has been the Influence of the Reformation of Luther on the political Situation of the different States of Europe, and the progreſs of Knowledge." The approbation with which this Work has been honoured both by the Inſtitute and the Public of France, is the beſt Proof of its Merit.

The bookſellers at Frankfort have been obliged to appear before an extraordinary committee of the magiſtracy of that city, to take an oath, not to print or ſell any work containing anything contrary to religion, or which may be aimed againſt a foreign power, or its government.

The Spaniſh inquiſition has condemned, as blaſphemous, heretical, and prejudicial to ſound morals, all the works of Pope, Thomas Paine, Corneille, Locke, and Marmontel; the Decade Philoſophiqûe, and the Treatiſe of Agrippa on the excellence of the Female Sex.

A Collection of Original Anecdotes of Frederick the Great, King of Pruſſia, his Family, his Court, his Miniſters, his Academies, and his Literary Friends, the reſult of twenty years familiar intercourſe with that Prince, from the pen of Mr. Thiebault, will ſhortly make its appearance in an Engliſh dreſs. This work is on a plan ſimilar to Boſwell's Life of Johnſon.

C. Giboin has diſcovered an expedient for ſupporting ſilk worms in unfavourable ſeaſons, when the mulberry leaf is liable to be deſtroyed. It is by collecting the autumnal foliage, drying it artificially, and reſtoring it to its former freſhneſs by immerging it in hot water.

A complete work on Practical Perſpective, illuſtrated with 12 engravings will ſhortly make its appearance.

A fine print of "The Warrener's Daughter," the ſame ſize, and intended as a companion to the Gleaner's Daughter, is in a ſtate of conſiderable forwardneſs.

An entire new branch of manufacture has been introduced into Scotland. In the neighbourhood of Glaſgow a work has juſt commenced for the manufacture of iron wire from the raw material, an article much wanted in that country.

Mr. Benjamin Bell will publiſh a Treatiſe on Strictures on the Urethra early in the Spring, in which a mild method of cure is recommended in preference to the uſe of cauſtic; in which the author attempts to ſhew the danger and various bad conſequences of that ſevere and painful practice.

The Philadelphia company of bookſellers have awarded a gold medal to Mr. William Young, of the Delaware paper mills, for eleven reams of excellent printing paper manufactured of mulberry roots, and bags made of guma bark.

A great ſubterraneous fire has burſt forth near the Ruſſian fortreſs Phanagoria, on the peninſula of Taman, where a ſimilar phenomenon took place ſome years ſince.

The numerous accidents by fire, occaſioned by the increaſe of our manufactories, &c. have been the means of engines being built on ſuch a conſtruction as to proceed to the ſcene of danger with the rapidity of a mail coach. In France, another contrivance has been introduced, intended to accompany theſe machines; this is called a portable ſtaircaſe, that can be elevated with the greateſt convenience to the ſummit of the moſt lofty habitations, and by which perſons may deſcend with the facility they would tread the ſtairs of an ordinary dwelling.

THE FINE ARTS.

The Editor flatters himself that this Article will be found of that Importance to the Professors and Amateurs of the Fine Arts, as to induce them to make the Monthly Epitome the principal medium for communicating to the Public, a complete Account of the various New Works in Sculpture, Painting, Engraving, &c. to the Public, so that it may become a complete Repository of Intelligence in that Elegant Department.

MR. Nattes has circulated proposals for publishing a collection of the most remarkable and picturesque Views of Bath, Bristol, Malvern, Cheltenham, and Weymouth, and also of the most remarkable objects in those celebrated places and their vicinities, which are well known to abound with beautiful and picturesque scenery. The engravings will be coloured in such a manner as to produce all the effect of the original drawings; the work will consist of twelve numbers, each to contain four views, with descriptions, and will be published at intervals of 2 months.

Mr. W. H. Pyne has just published the first number of an elegant publication, entitled, "The Costume of Great Britain." This work, which derives its origin from those popular and ornamental productions, the Costume of China, Russia, Turkey, Austria, and Hindostan, will consist of a series of coloured engravings representing characters, most of whom are peculiar to this country, forming a selection of persons, whose habits, customs, employments, and dress, distinguish them from the great mass of the people. It is intended that each character shall be drawn from the life, and every minutiæ of dress, and the implements and appendages to their different employments, with the badges of their various offices, be given with the most scrupulous exactness. The publication will consist of twelve numbers, to be published at intervals of three months.

Mr. T. Fisher has lately published, under the patronage of the Directors of the East India Company, an Engraving, by Mr. James Basire, of a Roman tessellated Pavement, discovered in Leadenhall Street, London, in December 1803. This Engraving exhibits the ornamented centre (11 feet square) of the floor of an apartment, which lay at a depth of nine feet six inches below the pavement. We are favoured by a correspondent with a description of this curious remains of Roman ingenuity, which we intend to give in our next number.

The prevalence in the fashionable world of the Egyptian and Chinese taste, in ornamental fancy works, has, we observe, induced Mr. Ackerman to prepare a delicate Paper for the purpose of covering Boxes, Screens, &c. &c which, after being varnished, produces an excellent imitation of the ivory inlaid-work in Ebony, so much admired in China.

While we are mentioning Mr. Ackerman's ingenuity, we cannot help taking notice of his ingenious and active disposition in providing ample store of every material necessary for Drawing and Colouring, drawing being now considered an indispensible requisition in modern education, and at the same time, serving to communicate correct ideas of taste. Those young persons who employ themselves in that delightful study, will feel obliged to us for recommending Mr. A.'s colours to them, which will be found some of the best now in use: he has contrived to mark the particular colour on each cake, which, especially, on those of the darker shade, will be found extremely serviceable; we have heard several artists speak with peculiar satisfaction of his preparation of a liquid Carmine, that possesses several valuable properties. His various ornamental figures, which bear all the classic elegance of

Greece and Rome, together with the greateſt number of faſhionable and taſteful devices, in ſhort, every requiſite to charm the eye of elegance in theſe captivating little fancy articles, which decorate the toilets, and employ the delicate fingers of the belles of the preſent day, may be found in his ſhop, in all the varied forms which the moſt capricious taſte can deſire.

A Series of Drawings are now in the hands of the engraver, and are propoſed to be publiſhed by ſubſcription, repreſenting 14 Views of the Diamond Rock, near the iſland of Martinico. This rock, it will be recollected, was lately taken poſſeſſion of by Commodore Hood, in his majeſty's ſhip Centaur. The drawings have been made by Mr. J. Eckſtein, an ingenious draftſman, and repreſenting different views of that romantic rock; there will alſo be one Plate, conſiſting of Portraits of the Officers of the Centaur, and a title plate, with the Portrait of Commodore Hood. They will be accompanied by an hiſtorical and topographical deſcription of the rock. The plates are engraved by Mr. Stadler of Villier's ſtreet, and are in a ſtate of great forwardneſs.

Mr. Robert Parker of Plymouth Dock, propoſes to publiſh by ſubſcription, an elegant engraving of a beautiful Naval Scene, repreſenting the launching of his majeſty's ſhip Hibernia, of One Hundred and Twenty Guns. The view is taken from Mount Edgecombe, and includes, an intereſting repreſentation of the Pallas and Circe frigates, the St. George of 98 guns, two Spaniſh frigates lately captured, and ſeveral other veſſels of leſs note. The print is to be engraved in aquatinta, by Bluck, and is expected to appear early in May.

Mr. Howlett has juſt completed his Collection of Views in the county of Lincoln; compriſing the principal towns, churches, ſeats of the nobility and gentry, remains of religious houſes, &c. The plates are engraved by himſelf, after drawings by Nattes, and other diſtinguiſhed artiſts, and form an elegant ſpecimen of taſte and judgment.

Mr. Naſh will ſhortly publiſh in the ſame magnificent ſcale with the "Engliſh Cathedrals," by the ſociety of Antiquaries, a Series of Views, exquiſitely engraved in aquatinta, interior and exterior of St. George's Chapel, Windſor, with illuſtrative plates, explanatory of its architecture and ornaments; a conciſe hiſtorical account of the building, containing about twelve pages of letter preſs, will accompany the views.

The fourth number of Mr. Randall's Collection of Architectural Deſigns for Villas, Caſſinos, Manſions, Lodges, &c. from original drawings, has recently appeared. This elegant work is intended to contain twenty original deſigns, in the ſtyle of Grecian and Gothic Architecture, comprized in ſix numbers in Atlas quarto, to be publiſhed every two months.

Mr. Richardſon, the Architect, will publiſh in a few days, the third part of the ſecond volume of the New Vitruvius Britannicus. This work has for its object, the bringing into one view, plans and elevations of public and private modern buildings, erected in Great Britain, by the moſt celebrated architects.

A ſuperb Portrait large as life, of Mr. Pitt, is in the Engraver's hands, and in a ſtate of conſiderable forwardneſs. The opportunity of perpetuating the memory of this diſtinguiſhed ſtateſman, conjoined with the novelty of the undertaking, we have little doubt, will excite the attention of the public.

Mr. Wallis has juſt publiſhed a New Game, entitled, Science in Sport, or the Pleaſures of Aſtronomy, which is intended to facilitate the attainment of that pleaſing ſcience, and will ſerve as an introduction to the various elementary works on that ſubject. This publication has been reviſed by, and honoured with the approbation of Mrs. Bryan of Blackheath, well known to the ſcientific world by her Treatiſe on Aſtronomy.

Another Game, equally intereſting and entertaining, and intended as a companion to the above, will ſhortly make its appearance, entitled, Science in Sport, or the Pleaſures of Natural Philoſophy.

The firſt part of Mr. Smith's Collection of Deſigns for Houſehold Furniture, and interior decorations, has juſt made its appearance. This ſplendid work diſplays a variety of the neweſt faſhions, combined with claſſic taſte, for the moſt uſeful and ſuperb articles of modern decorative furniture, ſtudied from the beſt antique examples of the Egyptian, Greek, and Roman ages.

A ſplendid work, containing repreſentations of the moſt curious and intereſting remains of antiquity in buildings, portraits, ſtained glaſs, armorial bearings, &c. at the Archiepiſcopal Palace at Lambeth, will ſhortly make its appearance. The whole included in twenty plates, and is nearly completed.

Meſſrs. Cribb and Son have juſt publiſhed four mezzotinto prints, the production of C. Turner, from paintings by Hoppner, Shee, and Abbott, viz. George John Earl Spencer, after Hoppner, Lavinia Counteſs Spencer, after Shee, the Biſhop of Carliſle, after Hoppner, and the Biſhop of Chicheſter, after Abbott.

The amateurs of the fine arts will be highly pleaſed with the above prints, as they are ſuperior ſpecimens of that mode of engraving. The artiſt has executed them in a ſtyle nearly equal to that of the celebrated Mr. Dixon, whoſe merit in this branch, has hitherto been conſidered as unrivalled.

Mr. Wilkinſon has juſt publiſhed the Second Number of his large General Atlas: the third, being already in a ſtate of conſiderable forwardneſs, will ſhortly appear, and be followed by the remainder with all convenient ſpeed. He has alſo publiſhed the twelfth Number of his Atlas Claſſica. This work is intended as a companion to the Quarto General Atlas, which has had a great ſhare of the public Approbation. Mr. W. propoſes to render his Atlas Claſſica one of the completeſt works of the kind extant.

The Shakeſpeare Gallery and its valuable Contents will be ſold by Auction in May. We hope that the opportunity afforded by this Circumſtance, will be the means of enabling ſome public ſpirited Individual or Society to gratify the public taſte, and, at the ſame time, fulfil the original intention of its late worthy founder, in converting it into a Britiſh School for the cultivation of the Arts of Engraving and Deſign.

Mr. Wallis, jun. is publiſhing an intereſting and elegant ſeries of Prints, peculiarly appropriate to the Circumſtances of the Times, repreſenting the Volunteers of London in their reſpective Uniforms, each Print containing a Volunteer in ſome military Attitude, elegantly engraved and coloured from ſpirited Drawings, by Mr. James Green, twelve of which have already appeared; to be followed by others of equal elegance.

A new Edition of Pilkington's Dictionary of Painters, edited by Mr. Fuſeli, is in the preſs and will ſhortly be ready for publication.

Mr. Towne will ſhortly open an Exhibition of Original Drawings for the inſpection of the public, in Lower Brook-Street, Groſvenor-ſquare. It will conſiſt of a ſeries of Drawings of the moſt picturesque Scenes in the neighbourhood of Rome, Naples, and other parts of Italy, Switzerland, &c. together with a ſelect Number of Views of the Lakes in Cumberland, Weſtmoreland and North Wales, the whole taken on the Spot.

Two beautiful Monuments from the claſſic hand of Flaxman, have recently been opened in Winchester Cathedral; the one for Dr. Warton, Head Maſter of the College, and the other for the Honourable Mrs. North, the Biſhop's Lady.

A Print of the late Rev. Mr. Gilpin, Vicar of Boldre, will be ready for delivery in a few days.

Sir John Fern's capital Collection of Paintings, was ſold by Auction at Dublin, a few days ago.

Mr. Sinnott has publiſhed a Map of the county of Waterford, from an Actual Survey.

Meſſrs. Cribb & Son have lately completed a ſeries of Views of Bombay, which they are diſtributing to the Subſcribers.

CORRECT LIST

OF

NEW PUBLICATIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

As the List of Books, given in the MONTHLY EPITOME, *is the MOST COMPLETE OF ANY PUBLISHED, and that of Prints, Maps, Charts, and Music, the ONLY ONE OF THE KIND printed in any Periodical Publication, the Editor requests that Authors, Publishers, and Artists, will continue to transmit the Titles of their Works, post-paid; and respectfully informs them, that they shall always meet with a ready Insertion, and WITHOUT ANY EXPENCE.*

AGRICULTURE.

A GENERAL View of the Agriculture of the County of Norfolk, drawn up for the consideration of the Board of Agriculture, and internal Improvement. By the Secretary of the Board, 8vo. 8s. boards. Nicol.

ARCHITECTURE.

The New Vitruvius Britannicus, consisting of Plans and Elevations of modern Buildings, public and private, erected in Great Britain, by the most celebrated Architects. By G. Richardson, Architect, vol. ii. part iii. Imperial folio, half bound, 5l. 15s. 6d. Taylor.

Randall's Collection of Architectural Designs, for Villas, Cassinos, Mansions, Lodges, &c. from original Drawings, No. iv. Atlas quarto, 6s. Proofs on Imperial folio, 10s. 6d.

BIOGRAPHY.

Anecdotes of Eminent Persons, comprising also, many interesting Literary Fragments, Biographical Sketches, Dialogues, Letters, Characters, &c. in prose and verse, 2 vols. 8vo. 14s. boards. Crosby and Co.

The Life of Sir Walter Raleigh, Knt. By Arthur Cayley, jun. Esq. 2 vols. 4to. 1l. 16s. boards. Cadell & Davies.

Memoirs of Public Characters of 1804. and 1805, 8vo. 10s, 6d. Phillips.

Books published at Edinburgh.

Choix de Literature, par M. Dufresne, 8vo. Longman & Co. London.

The History of Free Masonry, drawn from authentic sources of information; with an account of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, from its institution, in 1736, to the present time, compiled from the Records, and an Appendix of Original Papers By Alexander Laurie, Bookseller to the Grand Lodge of Scotland. 8vo. 7s. 6d. boards. Laurie, Edinburgh, Longman & Co.

The Principles of Moral Science. By Robert Forsyth, Advocate. Vol. I. 10s. 6d. boards. Bell & Bradfute, Edin. Longman & Co.

Remarks on certain Resolutions which appeared in the Edinburgh Newspapers, on the subject of "Board of Stamps" in Scotland. 2d. Constable & Co.

A Catalogue of the valuable Classical and Critical Library of the late Alex. Thomson, Esq. Author of Whist, &c. Many of the Books contain Manuscript Notes by Mr. Thomson. 3d. Elliot.

The Juvenile, No. I. to be continued every fortnight. 4d.

The Miscellaneous Works of the late Alexander Pirrie, of Edinburgh. Morrison, Perth.

Form of Deeds used in Scotland, Vol. VII. being a supplementary volume, containing an Index to six volumes, and a concentrated view of Deeds, By Robert Bell, Lecturer on Conveyancing.

The New Practice of Cookery, Pastry, Baking, and Preserving. By Mrs. Hudson and Donal, 12mo. 5s. boards.

Books published in Dublin.

The Charge of the Bishop of Meath to the Clergy of his Diocese, at his Annual Visitation, 1804. 2s. Archer.

A few Observations on the Inconveniences which arise from Impediments and other Defects in Speech. By Ch. Angier, M. D. 1s. Mahon.

Familiar Epistles to Frederick Jones, Esq. on the present State of the Irish Stage. 12mo. boards.

CHEMISTRY.

Important Discoveries and Experiments elucidated on Ice, Heat, and Cold. By the Rev. J. Hall, A. M. 2s. 6d.—— Jordan and Co.

DIVINITY.

The Destruction of Jerusalem, an absolute and irresistible Proof of the Divine Origin of Christianity, &c. With a brief Description of the City and Temple. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Sael and Co.

The Orthodox Churchman's Magazine and Review, for the year 1804, being vol. 6 and 7, 8vo. 19s. bound. Continued monthly. Rivingtons.

Sermons on the Miſſion and Character of Chriſt, and on the Beatitudes; preached at the Bampton Lecture, Oxford, 1803. By John Farrer, A. M. 8vo. 7s. boards. Rivingtons.

A Help to the Unlearned in the Study of the Holy Scriptures, being an Attempt to explain the Bible in a familiar Way. By Mrs. Trimmer, 8vo. 12s. boards.—— Rivingtons.

The Faith and Hope of the Righteous; a Sermon preached at Bath, Dec. 2, 1804. on occaſion of the Death of the Rev. A. Maclaine, D. D. late Miniſter of the Engliſh Church at the Hague. By the Rev. Dr. Gardiner, 1s.

Wiſdom and Duty. By Mr. Brothers. 1s. 6d. Riebau.

The Forbidden Tree; a Sermon, preached at the Church of St. Lawrence, Reading, on Tueſday, Oct. 2, 1804, at Archbiſhop Laud's Lecture, and publiſhed at the requeſt of the Clergy and others who were preſent. By the Rev. N. Gilbert, Vicar of Bledlew, Bucks, 1s. Hatchard.

An Eſſay on the Spirit and Influence of the Reformation by Luther; tranſlated from the French of Charles Villiers, with copious original Notes, by the Tranſlator. 8vo. Baldwins.

The Character and Final Perſeverance of the Righteous. A Sermon preached at St. Margaret's Chapel, Weſtminſter, Sunday, Dec. 16, 1804, on Occaſion of the Death of Mrs. Henrietta Stemler, &c. By John Davies, M. A. Miniſter of St. Margaret's, &c. 1s. Hatchard.

Sermons on various Subjects. By John Groſe, A. M. F. A. S. Vol. 2. Rivingtons.

A connected and Chronological View of the Prophecies relating to the Chriſtian Church, in twelve Sermons, preached in Lincoln's Inn Chapel, at the Lecture of the late Biſhop Warburton. By Robert Nares, A. M. F. R. S. F. A. S. Archdeacon of Stafford, &c. 8vo. 7s. 6d. boards. Rivingtons.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

A Treatiſe on the Art of Bread-making, wherein the Mealing Trade, Aſſize Laws, and every Circumſtance connected with the Art, is particularly examined. By A. Edlin, M. D. 12mo. 3s. 6d. boards.—— Vernor and Hood.

Culina Famulatrix Medicinæ; or Receipts in Modern Cookery; with a Medical Commentary. By A. Hunter, M. D. F. R. S. L. and E. 4s. boards. Wilſon and Spence, York; Mawman, London.

DRAMA.

The Britiſh Drama; comprehending (with the exception of Shakeſpeare) the beſt Plays in the Engliſh Language.

N. B. This Work contains near 150 Tragedies, Comedies, Operas, and Farces (the firſt Volume Tragedies, the ſecond Comedies, the third Operas and Farces; printed with a new and clear Letter, on fine wove-paper; the whole containing 2,700 Pages, in double Columns; Vignettes from Deſigns, by Smirke and Howard, embelliſh the Title Pages. Royal 8vo. 3l. 8s. boards. Miller.

Cuſtoms Fallacy; a Dramatic Sketch, in three Acts. By James Grant, Eſq. of Lincoln's Inn. Never performed. 2s. 6d. Barker and Son.

Theatrical Criticiſm. The preſent Eſſay contains a candid Critique on the New Play, called the School for Reform, &c. now acting at Covent-Garden Theatre. Written by James Peter Fearon. 2s. Barker and Son.

The Engliſh Drama; or a Collection of Plays of the moſt celebrated Authors. With Critical and Biographical Eſſays, and an Hiſtorical Inquiry into the Drama and Stage. Vol. 1. crown 8vo. 10s. 6d. royal do. 18s.

N. B. This Edition of the Engliſh Drama will comprehend the Plays of Shakeſpeare hitherto left out of Collections of this kind. It will be ornamented with Portraits of each Author, which will be prefixed to his Life; and enriched with Engravings illuſtrative of the Subject of each Play, from Pictures by the moſt celebrated Artiſts; amongſt which we find the names of Smirke, Stothard, Weſtall, &c. &c. The Engravers are of equal celebrity.

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